THE

PALL MALL GAZETTE

An Evening Newspaper and Review.

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A PROSTITUTE PRELATE.

King Milan—we wonder how many days or weeks longer the miserable creature at Belgrade will continue to disgrace the Royal title!—King Milan—for he is, at least, King *pro tem.*, has crowned his cowardly career by an act of turpitude, which will justify in the outraged conscience of Europe his ignominious deposition. History will ask for no further defence from those who cause him to disappear from the Servian stage than the astounding farrago of blasphemy and insolence which is found in his petition to the Metropolitan Theodosius. A monarch capable of penning such a document is incapable of reigning over any civilized or indeed any State that has emerged from the brutal and entered upon the human stage of development. Everything that we have ever said against this crowned caitiff now appears to have been too mild. In the light which this document sheds upon his character, who can find it in his heart to repeat the banal reproaches of want of "conjugal deference" which have been addressed to the unhappy Queen? How could even the most devoted of wives, the most submissive of women, feign respect for such a fellow as this?

But we do not care to speak any longer of one whom we hope his subjects will promptly despatch into a retirement where we shall hear of him no more. We are more concerned with the outrage which has been perpetrated upon religion and morality by one who ought to have been its jealous and faithful custodian. For the wretched Milan, we can entertain no other feelings than those of loathing and contempt, but it is impossible to speak of his mitred tool without wrathful indignation. The Metropolitan Theodosius, whose name will be infamous in history as the Judas of the Servian Church, is, it is true, the mere minion of Milan. The rightful Metropolitan, the real head of the Servian Church, the Archbishop Michael, was deposed by the King because he was too true and courageous a man to become the tool of the Austrian intrigue of which Milan had become the catspaw. The significance of this outrage upon the constitution of the Servian Church was pointed out at the time in the *Contemporary Review* by Mdme. de Novikoff, but her warnings passed unheeded. We now see the result of converting the head of the Orthodox Church in Servia into the pocket prelate of such a Sovereign as Milan. Milan after deposing the rightful Metropolitan made Theodosius his successor. In his "petition" Milan thus describes the lofty attributes with which this prelate claimed to be invested:—

> You, as Archbishop of Belgrade, and Metropolitan, are not only master in your own diocese, but supreme over the other dioceses. You are the autonomous chief of the Orthodox Church, and, as spiritual judge, superior to all the other princes of the Servian Church. Representative of God on earth, your Holiness holds an exceptional situation inside and outside the Orthodox Church.

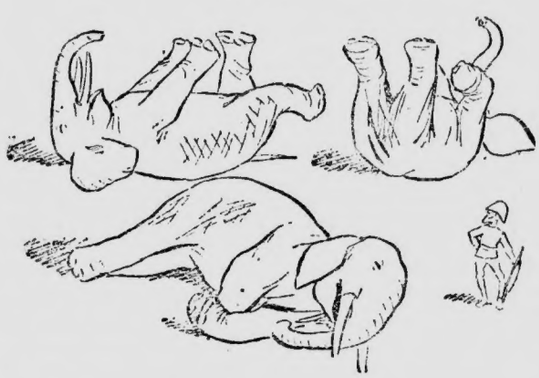
What a *reductio ad absurdum* is this of State Churchism! A man himself criminal though crowned deposes the true Archbishop and appoints as his successor a man guaranteed to be the obedient instrument of any infamy which he may propose. Then the creator of the tool bows down before him, and hails him as "Representative of God on earth"! What blasphemy, what mockery, what an outrage upon the Orthodox Church! To this prelate so enthroned, King Milan comes with a petition for relief from a marriage which has become irksome to him. He does not even venture to pretend, unscrupulous as he is, that his unhappy Queen has ever given him any cause for demanding a divorce. He simply says that "after several years of an unhappy marriage" he has determined to get rid of her. And so, finding that he could prove nothing against her, and that both the Synod and the Consistorial Court refused to be made partakers in so heinous an outrage upon an injured woman, he appeals to his Archbishop to dissolve the marriage. And, to his everlasting shame be it spoken, the prostitute prelate obeyed.

In order that no infamy might be wanting to this transaction the Metropolitan, in pronouncing his illegal decree of divorce, blasphemously justified his consent to do the will of the adulterous King, by deducing his right to do so from the words of Christ, who said, "Whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be "loosed in heaven." Surely the dogma of apostolic succession often as it has been paraded as a cover for crime, was never more cynically perverted than when it was brought forth to condone this infamy! The Church of Rome will have reason to exalt its horn on high over this flagrant example of one of the Eastern Churches being converted into the merest tool of despotism and sensuality. Surely in presence of so grave a scandal it is high time that the Œcumenical Council of the Eastern Church for which General Kiréef has hitherto been pleading to deaf ears in Russia, was assembled if only to protest against this prostitution of the autocephalous Church of Servia. How can the Orthodox Church claim to be a Church in any sense of the word when it allows one of its Metropolitans without censure or punishment to trample upon the elementary principles of justice and of morality at the bidding of a profligate like Milan—

> A wretch who takes his lusts to heaven,
> And makes a pander of his God?

*PHILISTINE FICTION.**

By Mr. William Archer.



Mr Rider Haggard was born under a lucky star. He is fortunate alike in his foes and in his friends. A foe so maladroit as the *Fortnightly* Reviewer, a friend so loyal and so limber as Mr. Andrew Lang — for mercies like these he should thank heaven fasting. The Reviewer is guilty of three capital errors, or let us say (since Mr. Haggard is the theme) three unsportsmanlike proceedings. He wears a mask; he arms himself with a portentous elephant-rifle, as though he were on the "spoor" of big game; and, for a second weapon, he sticks in his belt the rusty old plagiarism pistol which never fails to flash in the pan. He does not altogether miss his mark—the shot is too absurdly easy—but after a bang loud enough for the crack of doom we see, when the smoke has cleared away, that he has touched no vital part. Such a sportsman is himself fair sport for Mr. Andrew Lang, a sharpshooter of rare dexterity. Not since the "Essay on Thunder and Small Beer" have we seen a critic more effectually riddled. Mr. Lang, indeed, is not Mr. Thackeray (as he loves to call his idol), nor is his victim a mere Jupiter-Jeames. I am far from bracketting Mr. Lang's pretty little bit of pistol-practice with the Master's terrific Gatling-fire. It is sufficient to say that if Mr. Haggard be not himself a good writer he is the occasion of good writing in others.

At the same time one cannot but suspect Mr. Lang of paltering with his literary conscience in his championship of Mr. Haggard. It is chivalrous, it is loyal, it is daring; but he must know very well that it proceeds on the good old principle of "No case—abuse plaintiff's attorney." Mr. Lang has, no doubt, a sincere liking for much of Mr. Haggard's work; he has also a tenderness (unless I have much misread him) for Messieurs Gaboriau and Du Boisgobey. Such tastes are quite harmless, and Mr. Lang may fairly resent being likened by the *Fortnightly* Reviewer to the dipsomaniacs who seek swift and cheap inebriation in "the heterogeneous rinsings of a hundred glasses." But no one knows better than he that though this sort of stuff may "charm the evenings of jaded literary persons" it does not on that account become good or even tolerable literature. There is enough of the schoolboy left in him (happy he!) to find a relish in fantastic tales of antres vast and deserts idle, varied with astounding "yarns" of the prowess of South African Nimrods. He has

* "Mr. Meeson's Will." By H. Rider Haggard. (London: Spencer Blackett. 1888. And previously in the *Illustrated London News* Summer Number, 1888.)

"Maiwa's Revenge; or, the War of the Little Hand." By H. Rider Haggard. (London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1888.)

"Miss Lou." By Edward P. Roe. (London: Ward, Lock, and Co.)

moods, very likely, in which Allan Quatermain seems to him something of an heroic figure, and one may even imagine him, when more than usually jaded, smiling at the eye-glass and bare legs of Captain Good. But Mr. Lang is not merely an overgrown schoolboy. He is a man of fine literary faculty and delicate literary sense. He knows as well as the *Fortnightly* Reviewer (and probably much better) that Mr. Haggard is not a writer, an *écrivain*, but merely a popular paper-stainer. He knows that his style is alternately flat and tawdry, always slipshod, and often incorrect. He knows that his humour is the cheapest sort of mess-room jocosity, filtered for family consumption. He knows in his heart of hearts (though this, perhaps, he does not confess, even to himself) that the imagination which begot "She" is mechanically grandiose and is marred by an all-pervading commonness. He knows that the philosophic padding which Mr. Haggard so much affects is the veriest twaddle. He knows, in short, that Mr. Haggard is a story-teller for schoolboys, a half-educated writer for the half-educated. But having, in a schoolboy mood, done homage to Mr. Haggard's genius, Mr. Lang is not the man to falter in his allegiance. He has been misunderstood; his heedless and half-jesting praise has been taken seriously by the world in general and Mr. Haggard in particular. That gentleman has displayed a delightfully artless self-appreciation. He has discoursed solemnly and ungrammatically of the future of fiction, proving with much complacency that when the works of Howells and of Zola are mere waste paper, "She" and her progeny will possess the world of the imagination. He has held up his man-and-beast-slaying Munchausens as models of the "state and dignity of English gentlemen." He has publicly belauded a pasteboard dramatization of his own romantic masterpiece. These little eccentricities, combined with the publication of such works as "Maiwa's Revenge" and "Mr. Meeson's Will," must have helped Mr. Lang to realize the feelings of Frankenstein when his Monster got beyond control. Yet, with a constancy which does him nothing but honour, Mr. Lang steps forward to fight the battles of his friend. He recognizes that he is himself in some degree responsible for the sudden elevation which has turned Mr. Haggard's head, and led him to pose as one of the leaders of contemporary literature. Truth to tell, there is a certain amiable simplicity in Mr. Haggard's self-assertion which explains the attachment and devotion of his friends. But in the case of Mr. Lang, who has so keen an eye for absurdities, this devotion is none the less heroic.

"Maiwa's Revenge" consists of two hunting anecdotes, a skirmish, and a battle. It reveals no new side of Mr. Haggard's talent, and merely serves to show the thinness and monotony of his processes. Still, it is a capital boy's-book in its way, though to boys who have read "King Solomon's Mines" it will be apt to seem a bit of an anti-climax. We may regret, theoretically, that even schoolboys should be fed on such low ideals as prevail in these fictions, and should be taught to admire the mock-modest bragging which is part of "the state and dignity of English gentlemen" as represented by Mr. Allan Quatermain; but boys will be boys, and will crave for adventure for many a generation to come. "Mr. Meeson's Will," on the other hand, is not written for schoolboys, not even for schoolboys of a larger growth. It is, as Jupiter-Jeames would say, an "opuscule ostensibly intended to swell the tide of exhilaration incident upon the summer exodus from town." In other words, it is written for men and women in a holiday humour. Under these circumstances, we do not look for another "Middlemarch," or "Richard Feverel." We are content with "railway reading." Mr. Haggard, unfortunately, seems to have approached his task under a misconception. He forgot that a "holiday number" does not necessarily mean a "Bank Holiday number," and figuring to himself an audience of 'Arries and 'Arriets, he proceeded to adapt his matter to their taste. His central idea, that of a will tattooed upon a woman's back, is just what such an audience would probably describe as "spicey." Without being actually improper, it conveys a vague and subtle aroma of impropriety. It would have been far easier and more natural under the circumstances to have tattooed the will upon Augusta's arm; but in that case there would have been no room for the blushing and giggling in which lies the charm of the thing. How many thousand shop-girls must have giggled delightfully over such a passage as this, where Augusta presents herself before Dr. Probate (!), the registrar, at Somerset House :—

"Well," he said at length, "I suppose that I must come to a decision. It is a painful matter, very, to a person of modest temperament. However, I cannot shrink from my duty, and must face it. Therefore," he went on, with an air of judicial sternness, "therefore, Miss Smithers, I must trouble you to show me this alleged will. There is a cupboard there," and he pointed to the corner of the room, "where you can make—'um—make the necessary preparations."

"Oh, it isn't quite so bad as that," said Augusta, with a sigh, as she began to remove her jacket.

"Dear me!" he said, observing her movement with alarm. "I suppose she is hardened," he continued to himself; "but I dare say that one gets used to this sort of thing upon desert islands."

Just as Captain Good's legs seem to have charmed the schoolboy world, so Augusta's shoulders are calculated to enrapture the Bank Holiday public. But even for such a public a piece of work can be well done, or it can be ill done; and "Mr. Meeson's Will," as a whole, is badly conceived and executed. It opens with a virulent attack on a great publishing house, after the fashion of Dickens when he went on the reforming war-path; then it becomes a tragic, a very tragic, tale of the sea; and finally it dwindles into a preposterous farce. It has not enough verisimilitude to deceive Mr. Haggard himself. He seems all through to be humming Mr. Grossmith's refrain of—

Tell a tale of cock and bull—
Tale tremendous!
Heaven defend us!
What a tale of cock and bull!

For example, after Augusta has bared her shoulders before Dr. Probate, that "delightful specimen of the genus registrar" takes the whole party (not one of whom he has seen before) to Simpson's restaurant, where he "stands them a most sumptuous champagne lunch." "Finally," continues Mr. Haggard (pray note the structure of the sentence), "Finally, the Doctor wound up the proceedings, which were of a most lively order, and included an account of Augusta's adventures, with a toast." Can Mr. Haggard have forgotten that Augusta's adventures, which contribute to the hilarity of these most lively proceedings, include a shipwreck in which some 980 persons were drowned, among them the husband of Lady Holmhurst, then and there present? Again, in the trial of the great will case, we are gravely assured that the shell out of which two sailors were alleged to have drunk a certain quantity of rum on a desert island was accepted as valid evidence that these two sailors existed, and that they did consume that rum. Was there ever a more childish inconsequence? In the same celebrated case the Attorney-General opens his cross-examination of the heroine by asking her, "Were you, at the time of the tattooing of the will, in love with Mr. Meeson?" It is true that the licence of cross-examination has been carried to great lengths, but this is not licence, it is ineptitude. The whole scene is as extravagant as the trial in "Pickwick," yet Mr. Haggard obviously rather plumes himself upon its realism. He recognized (justly enough) that the effect to be aimed at is the contrast between the romantic circumstance of the tattooed will and the matter-of-fact procedure of an English law court; but he had not the skill to carry out that idea. As for the character-drawing in "Mr. Meeson's Will," it is of the very feeblest. Mr. Meeson senior is the conventional ogre-capitalist; Eustace Meeson is the veriest walking-gentleman; and Augusta Smithers, on whose "genius" Mr. Haggard is never tired of insisting, is as commonplace a young woman as ever fell in love with a pair of moustaches. The novelist who undertakes to draw women of genius must be prepared to justify his audacity. Mr. Haggard has once before essayed the adventure with disastrous results. His "Jess" did not even write her own poetry. Mr. Lang, by the way, confesses that he has not read "Jess," alleging that "about the Transvaal and Majuba it is not agreeable to him to read." His state is the more gracious; a perusal of "Jess" would certainly not tend to soften his feelings towards the Transvaal. Augusta is somehow less offensive than Jess. Though, if possible, a greater genius, she is healthier and less pretentious. Indeed, if she were *not* a genius, she would be a conceivable and not unpleasant young woman. But her genius is thrust down our throat at every turn. Lady Holmhurst, being introduced to her on board the R.M.S. *Kangaroo*, instantly remarks with a gesture of adoration, "When we find genius for once in our lives, we are not going to lose the opportunity of sitting at its feet!" One cannot but wonder whether Mr. Haggard has often been greeted in this fashion, and, if so, whether he admired the tact of his admirers. This lady's husband, I should add, comported himself more phlegmatically: "Lord Holmhurst, who had a considerable eye for a pretty girl—*and what man worthy of the name has not?*—bowed most politely and proceeded to tell Augusta, in very charming language, how delighted he was to make her acquaintance." Under ordinary circumstances we should be prepared to take it for granted that a gentleman would bow politely on being introduced to a lady, but the habits of a Colonial Governor with "a considerable eye" are not to be rashly conjectured.

Lastly, let me give a few specimens of Mr. Haggard's style in his sublimer moments :—

The sun was setting, and the arrows of the dying light flew fast and far across the *billowy bosom* of the deep. Fast and far they flew from the stormy glory in the west, lighting up the pale surfaces of cloud, and tinging the grey waters of that majestic sea with a lurid hue of blood. They kissed the bellying sails, and seemed to rest upon the vessel's lofty trucks, and then travelled on and away and away, through *the great empyrean of space* till they broke and vanished upon the horizon's rounded edge. There behind them—miles behind—Kerguelen Land reared its *fierce cliffs* against the twilight sky. Clear and desolate they towered in an unutterable solitude, and on their *snowy surfaces* the sunbeams beat coldly *as the warm breath of some human passion beating on Aphroaite's marble breast.*

* * * * *

The Night arose in strength and shook *a golden dew of stars from the tresses of her streaming clouds*, till the wonderful deep heavens sparkled with a myriad *gemmy* points. The west wind going on his way sung his wild chant amongst the cordage, and *rushed* among the sails as with a *rush* of wings. The ship *leant* over like a maiden shrinking from a kiss, then, shivering, fled away, leaping from billow to billow as they rose and tossed their white arms about her, fain to drag her down and hold her to ocean's heaving breast.

* * * * *

But now Time was once more before her, and, oh! the nearness of Death had taught her the unspeakable value of that *one asset on which we can rely—Life.* Not, indeed, that life for which so many live—the life led for self, and having for its principle, if not its only end, the gratification of the desires of self; but an altogether higher life—a life devoted to telling that which her keen instinct knew was truth, and, however imperfectly, painting with the pigment of her noble art those visions of beauty which sometimes seemed to rest upon her soul *like shadows from the heaven of our hopes.*

* * * * *

And even as she slept, a Presence that she could not see was standing near her bed, and a Voice that she could not hear was calling through the gloom,

Another mortal had bent low at the feet of that Unknown God whom men name Death, and been borne away on his rushing pinions into *the spaces of the Hid.*

The italics are of course my own, and are designed to throw into relief some of the most "gemmy" of these jewels of thought and utterance. What are "shadows from the heavens of our hopes"? Since when has life become an "asset on which we can rely"? It has generally been reckoned, not an asset at all, but a debt for which the creditor may at any moment distrain. Is a ship in the least like a maiden shrinking from a kiss? and do the stars ever seem, even to the "red and rolling eye of imagination," to be shaken out of the clouds? Poor Mr. Lang! As he reads these passages, he must feel himself indeed a literary Frankenstein. Can he not take his—well, his Mr. Haggard aside, and read him that passage in which Thackeray adjures an author of kindred genius, if he must go in for similes, to see that his similes are *like*?

Chance has thrown in my way, along with "Mr. Meeson's Will," a novel by the late Mr. E. P. Roe, who is understood to be the most popular novelist of America. A "well-known hand" in the *Daily News* (following Mr. Matthew Arnold) had so recently been making merry over the vogue of this author that I opened "Miss Lou" with some curiosity. Well, it is not a work of genius: it does not stand on a high literary plane; but it is a masterpiece in comparison with "Mr. Meeson's Will." It is far better written, far less vulgar and trivial (indeed, it is not vulgar at all), far more thoughtful, more sincere, more workmanlike. If Mr. Roe's other writings are like this, his popularity shows that American taste, if not refined, is fundamentally healthy. The book deals with an episode in the American war, which it describes vividly and movingly. It is full of well-observed character, honest sentiment, and genial humour. It is true that the author's style is undistinguished, while his mildly Evangelical criticism of life is not precisely luminous. No doubt he is beloved of the "numbers," not of the "remnant." For my part, I do not hunger and thirst for a closer acquaintance with his work. The fact remains, however, that it ill becomes the prophet of Mr. Haggard to sneer at the popularity of Mr. Roe. Both writers appeal (as "Ouida" did in her day) to the half-cultured masses. The tales of both are of the kind which should be told in Gath and published in the streets of Askelon, that the daughters of the Philistines may rejoice. But, Philistinism for Philistinism, I venture to assert that Mr. Roe's is the less offensive, the less blatant of the two. As a literary craftsman he is far more competent than Mr. Haggard, and far less pretentious. "Miss Lou" may very likely continue to be read when "Mr. Meeson's Will," and "Jess" along with it, have been "borne away on rushing pinions into the spaces of the Hid."

W. A.

ME-I-O-W: ME-I-O-W: "PUSS, PUSS, PUSS."

The Cat Show at the Crystal Palace.

Five hundred and twenty-four cats, some of them with charming and lively young families, and all of them claiming to belong to the aristocracy of the feline race, have for the last two days lived and moved (as far as their position behind iron bars would allow them to move) and had their being in one of the upper galleries of the Crystal Palace. Throngs of friends and admirers have been crowding around them at the show, for which Mr. Venables, the superintendent for the last seventeen years of the cat and bird shows at the Palace, claims the honour of its being the largest assembly of civilized cats which the world has ever seen. The music of their voices, which in some cases was a really fine and unique performance, resounded through the wide halls, forming a sure guide for all visitors, who, right at the entrance of the gallery, were confronted by a charming specimen of catdom in one "Jimmy," whose tortoise-shell and white fur have secured for him one of the fifty-two first prizes gained by various members of the assembly for different virtues. "Jimmy" looks sweetly complacent from above his pink necktie, for he is "not for sale," a distinction which he shares with a limited number of his brethren and sisters, while the rest are all in the market, at prices running up to £2,000. The two-thousand pounder, by the way, rejoices in the name of Tibby, and is a big, black "belled" cat, calmly sleeping away his time of imprisonment, as do most of the "old stagers" which have graced many an exhibition by their presence, and which, when once again they appear on the scene of their former triumphs, are taken out of their baskets with some such greetings from the powers that he as, "Hallo, old man, are you here again, too?" Those cats are best off at the exhibition which, having by reason of their superior "make," habitually to submit to being exhibited, accept the situation with the calmness befitting the descendants of the whilom Egyptian deity. And some of them, alas! pay the price of their liberty for the honour of being prize cats, as, for instance, a beautiful tabby, with proud eagle eyes, which wastes its great strength, formerly so valiantly used against any neighbouring cats that in the district where it lived cats had vanished for a short time entirely from the scene, in a cage, or lowly chained to a piece of furniture. Others are not quite so unfortunate as "Jumbo," in whom the warlike spirit predominates over every other feeling, but the majority of the exhibition cats have in some way to learn the lesson that "il faut souffrir pour être belle," or, it might be added, for being in any other way distinguished. This is more particularly the case with the "fancy" cats—such as, for instance, the white, long-haired beauties from the land of the Shah; the "blue" cats; those which can boast of a thumb; the graceful Siamese of pearly-grey, who belong to the cats which certainly may look at a King, since in Siam they are only to be had in the harem at the King's Palace, whence several of the specimens exhibited have been directly imported. To keep these and other "foreigners" alive and in good health under our grey skies and through our winter frosts and fogs, is by no means an easy thing, and one lady, while putting a choice little morsel of tender meat before her Siamese friend, complained yesterday that she had lost no less than £30 in a twelvemonth through kittens of this breed dying of ailments contracted in this climate. £50 is no uncommon price for a pure-bred Siamese cat, whose pedigree is as carefully kept as that of the most valuable race-horse. But much admired as these distinguished foreigners were, they were not the chief objects of interest at the show, and even the giant among the cats, a big grey creature not unlike a prize pig, and with the same aversion to any unnecessary physical exertion, and the scores of graceful kittens, had to stand back before one little creature sitting shyly in a corner of its cage, before which a crowd of spectators was constantly consulting as to the nature of the mysterious being with the sharp black nose, the cold, clear eyes, and the long brown tail, wound round the neck. Some one said it was an Indian mongoose, and somebody else talked of a kangaroo, but in reality the uncanny thing was one of those strange solitary animals which never mate, and which are known under the name of the Lemur or Madagascar cat, and are only found at Madagascar. Poor little "Jock" did not look happy at all, but submitted with dogged and somewhat pathetic patience to all demands made on him to show the light of his countenance and the length of his nose.

But worse off than even little "Jock" were those cats—and their number was considerable among the five hundred and twenty-four—which were new comers at a show and of an independent spirit. Having hitherto been accustomed only to promenade on roofs and disport themselves under the bushes of private gardens, there to play the troubadour and the knight errant, they howled and yelled and appealed with heartrending shrieks to the visitor, till, pacified by an abundant supply of good things for the inner cat, they subsided, and philosophically slept themselves through the two exhibition days.

And behind the scenes, where the public was not admitted, in the back premises of the Palace grounds, boiled a great caldron full of tripe and other dainties over a bright fire under the blue glad autumn sky, while inside a "private" room two men were all day busy with cutting up the meat into small pieces, and in turning a sausage machine for the benefit of the kittens, while big cans of fresh, creamy milk represented the cup that cheers but not inebriates. The show was, on the whole, a very great success, and if only the public would have abstained from opening the cages, or teasing the cats in other ways, one of the chief difficulties against which the authorities have to contend would have been removed.

Here, in conclusion, is a little true cat story which ought to stand as a solemn warning to those who put their faith in and lavish their affections upon cats. A gentleman was the happy owner of a magnificent cat, which charmed everybody, both by its beautiful colour and perfect shape, and by its soft, caressing manners. Every day it received from its master's own table its dainty little meals, and never had it known what it was to take its meals anywhere but by its master's side, while the latter was having his meals. One day some distinguished visitors arrived, and at luncheon the master for once forgot, or neglected, his favourite. After the guests had left he lay down on a couch, for his habitual afternoon nap, and the cat watched him from the distance with gleaming eyes. Shortly after the servants were summoned to the room by loud groans, and on entering found their master with a deep wound in his throat, which after a few days proved fatal. The cat had waited till he was asleep and then had pounced upon him and furiously bitten his throat. But this cat was *not* at the Crystal Palace show.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. MORLEY AND THE EMPIRE.

To the Editor *of the* Pall Mall Gazette.

Sir,—Have you noticed that in several of the speeches delivered by him lately (last night's at Perth was one) Mr. John Morley has been careful to introduce a passage about the splendour and glory, and so on, of this great British Empire? It has been done, you will doubtless have noticed, in a casual sort of fashion; but don't you think he really wants you to see—you who have frequently taken him to task for not possessing the "Imperial instinct," and have compared him unfavourably with Mr. Chamberlain in that respect—to see that he does possess that instinct, that he possesses the broad, comprehensive vision necessary in the head and chief of a great British party? He wants you to observe, I think, that, if one of his eyes is for ever fixed firmly upon Ireland, with the other he surveys the Empire at large, and understands it and realizes all that it is. This fact I think you ought to acknowledge; you ought to rub your hands together and smile a self-satisfied smile at it. As a young "Rad" rather afraid of Mr. Morley in this connection hitherto, I do, and thank you.—Your obedient servant,

October 23. H. S. Williams.

PASSENGER ELEVATORS.

To the Editor *of the* Pall Mall Gazette.

Sir,—We trust you will allow us a word or two in reference to an article upon the above subject appearing in your paper to-day, and which, as it stands, conveys an impression somewhat unfair to English manufacturers. Mr. Gibson coolly, and somewhat amusingly, appropriates every good point appertaining either to English or American lifts. Almost every feature upon which he lays stress is to be found in English machines. For instance, the long vertical cylinder, the piston embedded in water, the wedge grip, the gravity action controlling them, the multiple ropes, the silent running, the speed, are all present in English lifts, many of these elements having been known here from twenty to fifty years ago. Further, English-made machines possessing every advantage enumerated are being erected in large numbers at prices averaging about three-fifths that of the American machine. The handsome cars alluded to are of English manufacture, and can be obtained by any maker who has a purchaser willing to pay for them.—Thanking you in advance, we are, Sir, yours faithfully,

Archibald Smith and Stevens.

Queen's-road, Battersea, October 23.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

"Out of the satisfactory working of this Act may come the one and true solution of the Irish difficulty." So says Mr. Norris, Tory M.P. for Limehouse, in speaking of the new County Council for London. And so say all of us. The population of Ireland is approximately the same as the population of London; and if Mr. Norris will agree to making Ireland a county and giving it a single Council, he would practically satisfy the Irish demand. "There is not in the House of Commons a more firm supporter of the Unionist cause," adds Mr. Norris, "than I am." There are not outside the House of Commons more firm supporters of the Home Rule cause than we are. But if Mr. Norris's line is generally adopted on his side, the extremes will soon meet, as indeed we have always said they would when the Home Rule leaven in Mr. Ritchie's Act has had time to leaven the Tory lump.

According to Mr. Hamer (in a letter to the *Times* this morning) the prospects of the London County Council are very bad. No candidates are coming forward, he says, except "the old members of the Board of Works and local vestrymen." What the average member of the Board of Works is like, we all know. What the average vestryman is like, no one knows better than Mr. Hamer, who, as the moving spirit on the "Mansion House Council," is constantly coming across the scandalous neglect of the vestries in the matter of the Dwellings of the Poor. No wonder, therefore, that Mr. Hamer exhorts "good men and true" to no longer hold aloof. If they do, and leave us to the tender mercies of the "old members of the Board of Works and local vestrymen," the last state of London will be worse than the first.

The *Standard*, indeed, goes into hysterics of thankfulness because the Duke of Westminster has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of the county of London. It stands almost aghast at his condescension "in striving to make the new system as efficient and business-like as possible," and cannot be sufficiently grateful that he has been selected "to bridge over the gulf between the old *régime* and the new." There would have been some sense in all this if the Duke of Westminster —the Lord Mayor Designate under Sir W. Harcourt's scheme— had been elected chairman of the Council; but as a Lord-Lieutenant has no serious duties at all beyond the practical appointment of J.P.'s, and as there are no J.P.'s in London to appoint, the alacrity of the *Standard* in prostrating itself before his Grace seems somewhat out of place.

Mrs. Gordon Baillie, to give her one of the thirty-six different names by which she has done business for so many years, is now enjoying the first leisure she has possessed since she attained womanhood. Five years' penal servitude is a somewhat lengthy period of seclusion, and when it is ended the personal capital on which the brilliant adventuress traded so successfully will be seriously, perhaps irretrievably, impaired. Her conviction destroys the one argument which has hitherto been relied upon to justify a doubt as to her guilt. "If I am such a swindler," she used to reply when confronted with allegations as to her crimes, "why am I not in gaol?" The fact, we suppose, is that she had in reality command in some way or other of some considerable funds, but finding them insufficient for her needs, eked them out by a system of swindling, wholesale and retail, which brought fraud almost to the level of a fine art.

The game is played out at last, and this morning its heroine is contemplating the dull monotony of her prison walls. With her and her paramour the outside world has now no more to do, but what about her children? There were three or four little ones, from twelve years old and under, who possessed some considerable share of the beauty and grace of their mother. Last year they were bundled into the workhouse, from which they were subsequently rescued. Where are they now? Poor little mites! It would be a cruel visiting of the sins of the parents upon the children if, after spending their infancy in the comfort and luxury of a well-appointed home, they were to be doomed to be packed off to the Union.

When will there be an end to the eternal squabble over the character of actresses? Any one, be it a clergyman or a "realistic" novelist, who longs for a month or so of notoriety, has only to traduce the female members of "the profession" and he is sure to get it—especially if Mr. Irving happens to be on tour in the hospitable north. But for Mr. Irving, Mr. George Moore's ill-considered and ignorant onslaught upon the stage would long ago have been forgotten. Yet last night Mr. Irving must needs return to the attack, on the ground that the ladies of his calling had no one to defend them. The truth of the matter is surely simple enough. No one doubts (not unless it is Mr. George Moore) that, as Mr. Irving says, there are "hundreds and hundreds of good women, mothers, daughters, wives, and sisters, who earn their daily bread upon the stage"—even upon the ballet stage. But it is equally obvious that a calling which involves so much personal display offers special attractions and special temptations for women of the looser sort. To deny this is as absurd as to affirm that propriety is unknown in the theatre.

It is easy for members for dockyard towns to be virtuous in demanding the maintenance of an adequate navy, but Sir John Gorst is more than M.P. for Chatham. He is all but a Cabinet Minister, and he is virtually master of India. It is therefore with satisfaction that we read his remarks last night upon the condition of the navy. He said:—

> The very existence of the population of Great Britain depended on the fleet being kept at such formidable dimensions as to secure us against the calamity of the stoppage of our food supply. He urged that an addition should be made to the fleet of such a character as to secure our commerce against the possibility of destruction.

Truisms, no doubt, but truisms upon which it is the most difficult thing in the world to induce Ministers to act. We hope Sir John Gorst will stick to his guns.

Captain Wiggins's story, as told on his arrival in the Tyne, confirms the accuracy of the judgment formed in receiving the telegram of his failure. It was the delay occasioned by waiting for the *Seagull* which ruined everything. A precious month was thus lost which would have enabled the *Labrador* to discharge her cargo with ease. And when the *Seagull* did arrive, her crew had not the nerve to face the Arctic seas. They turned tail and fled, compelling Captain Wiggins to follow them home. To add to the chagrin with which we hear this news, it is stated that the *Phœnix* after all got off the sandbank and came down safely to receive the cargo which never arrived. Captain Wiggins reports the sea entirely free from ice, and he could have proceeded to the Yeniseiwith ease, but for that unfortunate *Seagull*. However, it is no use crying over spilt milk, and we hope and believe that Captain Wiggins will have better luck next time.

Mr. Victor Morier, who started with Captain Wiggins for Yeniseisk, has shown something of the indomitable resolution of his father. Finding that he could not accomplish his journey as it was originally planned, he left the *Labrador* at Petts Straits, and started overland, with the view of ascertaining on his way the possibility of canalizing the isthmus which compels all vessels bound for the Obi to make a detour of 1,000 miles round the Yamal peninsula. He started for the Straits on September 21, accompanied by Mr. Crowther, the second mate of the *Labrador*, a Russian exile who had shipped as cook, and three Samoyed families, with their tents and 300 head of reindeer. When the procession started, there was, as might have been expected, considerable excitement, the natives and Russians following the British Ambassador's son for miles and cheering him heartily. Mr. Morier will travel to Tobolsk and Tumein, from whence he will return to St. Petersburg by rail. Mr. Victor Morier seems to be a true chip of the old block.

That five thousand women of the labouring classes in East London should petition the Queen to call upon her servants in authority to enforce the law and "to close bad houses within whose walls such wickedness is done, and men and women ruined in body and soul," is a curious incident in the history of the Whitechapel murders. Mr. Matthews, in reply, says that he is "in communication with the Commissioners of Police with a view to taking such action as may be desirable in order to assist the efforts of the petitioners and to mitigate the evils of which they complain." But so far as the Whitechapel murders prove anything about the social evil, is it not that houses are not indispensable to vice—that, in fact, where there is poverty on one side and animalism on the other, any quiet spot under the sky affords a place for the evils in question?

General Boulanger's examination by the Revision Committee yesterday should certainly tell in his favour. It proves him to be possessed of a gift which is by no means common amongst distinguished persons—the gift, namely, of holding his tongue and keeping his own counsel. He did, indeed, make a show of disclosing a scheme; but as the essence of the scheme was in its details, and as he steadily refused to enter into details, he left the Committee not a whit wiser than he found it. The last words of his evidence precisely sum up its tenour: "I have, perhaps, an opinion; but I keep it for myself." His rivals have opinions too, but they do not, or cannot, keep them for themselves. That is why he has the pull over them.

A good example of the value of silence is to hand in the mess in which our Minister at Washington is involved from not keeping his opinions for himself. There is no reason whatever why Lord Sackville should not have an opinion about the Presidential election; but there is every reason why he should not communicate it in writing to an

unknown correspondent. The position of an Ambassador will be impossible if he is to let any and every inhabitant of the country to which he is accredited turn the pump handle and be sure of a "draw."

It is becoming the fashion for dignitaries of the Church to give forth pronouncements on the merits of Socialism. It is impossible not to smile, in reading some of these clerical manifestoes, at the thought of our Socialist friends dutifully but perplexedly scratching their heads over them. They, no doubt, are all agog, when they receive such an *ex cathedrâ* admonition to miss no atom of the edification to be derived from it. Unfortunately, the Delphic oracles were light reading compared to these clerical conundrums about Socialism. The latest is from Canon Jacob at the Winchester Diocesan Conference. We are, as every one admits, all Socialists nowadays; the crux is how far we are to give play to these principles in legislation. That being so, "The duty of the Church," said Canon Jacob, "lay, he considered, in the encouragement of the State in the moderate protection of the working man." What do the Socialists make of Canon Jacob's "moderate protection"?

The Neapolitan reporter who disguised himself as a waiter was not, it appears, original. When the German Emperor drove to the Vatican, an Italian, who was disguised as a German Imperial courier (Staffetier), was detected by the police of the Vatican palace, and locked up in a private room. He gave his name as Bertini, and confessed that he was a journalist, who was determined at any hazard to be present at the reception of the Kaiser by the Pope. The venturous pressman had planted himself in the private equipage of Count Herbert Bismarck, doubtless after an understanding with the coachman, and managed thus to get as far as the Pope's ante-chamber, where he was immediately arrested. It turns out, upon examination, that the energetic journalist is no other than the editor of the Socialist *Messagero*.

CYCLING IN FRANCE.

By Mr. Joseph Pennell.

Mr. Oscar Browning contributes, from the standpoint of a touring cycler, a most interesting paper on two days in Germany. I have lately spent a month, every day of which was quite as pleasant, in France. Indeed, for the last four years I have looked forward to my annual trips awheel in that country with the utmost delight, and back to them, after they were finished, with regret that they were over.

France possesses, or would possess (if it were not for the unbusiness-like, short-sighted, and stupid policy of the London, Chatham, and Dover and the South Eastern Railways in refusing to carry cyclers and their wheels at a reasonable charge, and the equally stupid Customs arrangements enforced at Calais and nowhere else), great advantages over Germany. The good roads of France are within ninety minutes of Dover, while to get to Germany you must either take a comparatively long sea voyage, or cross France or unrideable Belgium. As a whole, the French roads are much better than the German, not to say the best in the world. French cyclers, like Germans, are racing men, and not tourists. But this racing spirit is merely the first result of English influence exerted by the people who imagine they control all cycling affairs in England, and whose sayings and doings are foolishly aped on the Continent. Therefore, the first thing a French cycler asks you is, "How many kilometres can you ride in an hour?" I always tell him some fabulous number which seems to satisfy him. During the last four years the growth of cycling in France has been something enormous, as any one can see who has even only visited Paris, while in the provinces the roads which four years ago were given over to the sleeping drivers of skittish horses are now becoming peopled by cyclers who are using their machines to get about from town to town for business or pleasure. However, as I have said, as yet, except as road racers, they do not go for long distances. Neither is it safe to ask a local cycler about the roads. You will find that he either knows nothing about them ten miles away or will tell you of the terrible mountains you are about to encounter. But terrible mountains in France are beautifully graded roads, climbing up hill with long, easy curves, every one of which you can ride.

Though I have crossed France in three directions, I determined this time to make a bee line for the south, where I had work. I left Dieppe early in the morning after a vile night on the Channel, lunched in Rouen, and after visiting Elbœuf, slept opposite the lovely old church doorway in Louviers. Next night I got to Chartres by Evreux and Dreux, through the forest. From Chartres, having picked up a couple of architects, who were endeavouring to walk all over the country, and had gotten badly disgusted after three or four days of it, in order to get on and keep together, we all trained it to Orleans, my cycle only costing me two sous on the railway. From Orleans, having, of course, merely looked at the cathedrals in both places, I went on to Bourges, and from Bourges to Nevers, all these towns being on my straight line south; and could any one imagine a more interesting route, to say nothing of the little towns and quaint villages I passed, far from any railway? From Nevers, knowing the grand road through the Bourbonnais, over Mont Tarare down into Lyons, I trained it, and though La Pacandière and La Palisse, Roaune, and Tarare brought back delightful memories of a tandem ride, I am one of those who believe that when you have an object in view it is useless to peg away for a couple of days over a road you know, when a railroad will take you to new ground in less than one. One of the great advantages of cycling is that when necessary you and your machine can so easily take the train, and in France for the sum of two sous. From Lyons I knew the way along the Rhone valley was all down hill, and with the mistral behind me I was blown down into Provence by Valence into quaint diligence-filled Montélimart, which would have delighted Ruskin. But I did not envy the people in the hot, stuffy diligence, to whom I gave hours' start and a tremendous beating. Through the real gateway of that land of romance at Orange, on to Avignon, the mistral always behind me, to loaf at Tarascon and look up at the Château of Beaucaire, to *assist* at bullfights at Arles, and, in fact, to see the whole length and breadth of Provence from Aix to Aigues-Mortes, from Uzes to Marseilles, in the only way in which it can be seen or known, and in the perfect time of the year: at the height of the vintage, in the middle of the mosquitoes, in the thick of the bullfights.

Not one cycler did I meet touring in nearly a thousand miles of riding, though I heard of an Englishman who had preceded me. Not only can you ride all the way down hill from Lyons to Marseilles with the mistral, the north wind, at your back, but by climbing up to Alais, on your return, you can come down the valley of the Allier all the way to Nevers with the south wind. This round trip is one of the most wonderful in the world, the return journey being through the Cevennes, and though Mr. Stevenson went with a donkey I would advise a cycle. If Frenchmen cannot appreciate touring, no Englishman who does care for it should omit this ride.

The expenses are moderate—about seven francs a day—the pleasure is great.

THE ARMADA EXHIBITION AT DRURY LANE.

Yesterday afternoon Lord Winchilsea and Nottingham opened this wonderful collection, which has been brought together by the indefatigable industry of Mr. Augustus Harris and Mr. Broadley. The Grand Saloon at the National Theatre was crammed with well-known people when the descendant of the Hattons got up and began his very interesting historical address, for which he was warmly thanked by Mr. Harris and Mr. Wright, and by the audience. The exhibition is free—to those who occupy the best seats in the theatre. Is it not a pity that Mr. Harris, who is so thoroughly imbued with the Democratic spirit of the age, cannot give the pittites and the boys in the gallery a chance of reading such a unique page in one of the most interesting chapters of English history?

The collection that has been brought together is a very remarkable and curious one, affording cause for surprise both in regard to its fine quality and extent, even to those who are experts in the matter of Elizabethan relics and Elizabethan art. The exhibition covers a large field—contemporary and modern paintings, prints, MSS., autograph letters, and books; armour, weapons, instruments of torture; fragments of the ships of the Armada, and specimens of their armaments; photographs of all sorts, medals, costumes, treasure chests, plate, jewellery, miniatures, porcelain, the sword of the Earl of Leicester, tobacco boxes—including Sir Francis Drake's—gloves, Sir Francis's walking stick and sword, lace, and so forth, all of them having a direct bearing upon the Armada itself and the persons who acted chief parts in the events of the times. To say that the collection is far more complete than that which attracted so much attention at Plymouth a month or two ago is hardly to do sufficient justice to the enterprise and judgment of Mr. Augustus Harris, Mr. W. Wright, and Mr. Broadley. The cream of Mr. Edwin Brett's magnificent collection of armour has been secured by them—with its suits of armour, its swords, its helmets, its rapiers, and its daggers. Mr. Brett is the fortunate owner of what was once Sir Coutts Lindsay's collection, and includes some of the finest pieces from that of Lord Londesborough. Then there are the suits belonging to Lord De L'Isle and Dudley—now seen for the first time away from Penshurst. The Baron de Cosson, Mr. Cecil Wade, and Mr. Seymour Lucas also contribute extensive exhibits—so that these four famous collections, reinforced by that at the Tower, combine to form a gathering of armour of the latter end of the sixteenth century which for perfection and interest it would be hard to match in Europe. But others besides connoisseurs will enjoy the sight of these relics of what has been called "the most tremendous escape in English history." Then there is to be seen a "torture-chair"—the most diabolical invention that ever was produced by human cruelty and human ingenuity. Not a portion of the body for the exquisite and not always refined torture of which full provision has not been made—from the screwing in of the cranium to the tearing out of the toe nails.

Two slight errors—very slight, but still errors—appear to us as blemishes. First, there is a flag which must certainly date rather from the time of Marie Antoinette than from that of Elizabeth. Second, the "crimson velvet robe" which is said to have been worn by Queen Elizabeth on the occasion of her thanksgiving at St. Paul's is contrary to contemporary portraiture and, we think, contrary to sense; for surely so smart a lady as was the Virgin Queen—so complete a slave to dress and fashion—would not have appeared on a great State occasion in an embroidered dressing-gown. And third, we doubt the ascription of the Queen's portrait (No. 18) to Zucchero. It is certainly something like the famous portrait by the same artist at Jesus College, Oxford, but it is altogether inferior in quality and lacking the distinction and colour of the other. But these are small things. The collection, which, we hear, has been insured for £25,000, is an extremely fine one, surpassing in interest anything that has been seen of the kind within recent years.

At Home and Abroad.

The Queen has approved of the appointment of the Duke of Westminster, K.G., to be Lord Lieutenant of the newly created county of London.

The Marquis of Salisbury has accepted the invitation of the Lord Mayor Elect and the Sheriffs to the Guildhall banquet on the 9th of November, as have also the Lord Chancellor, Viscount Cranbrook, Earl Cadogan, the Home Secretary, Viscount Cross, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Duke of Rutland, and Mr. Ritchie.

Field-Marshal Moltke will be eighty-eight years old to-morrow. The illustrious strategist is still so completely in possession of all his faculties that it is hoped he may be able to co-operate in the further development of the German army and of the national defences for many years to come.

It is officially stated that there is no possibility of a famine occurring in Upper Egypt, as there is plenty of millet, barley, and cocheca. The basin to be opened on Saturday next for irrigation purposes will much benefit Ghizeh and Lower Egypt.

The Swiss Social Democrats are taking steps to procure 50,000 signatures to a petition in favour of the revision of the Federal Constitution. A memorial for the purpose named must have 50,000 subscribers before it can be taken into consideration.

The Turners' Company opened their annual exhibition at the Mansion House yesterday of specimens of turning. No examples of wood-work are, however, shown, the competition including only four sections—diamonds, glass, stone, and pottery.

Mrs. Charles Turner, of Liverpool, has given £20,000 towards the formation of a fund for pensioning incumbents in the diocese of York who feel themselves incapacitated from further duty. The same lady had previously bestowed a like gift for the diocese of Liverpool.

The statue of the late Earl of Iddesleigh, which is to be erected in the Central Hall of the Houses of Parliament, was taken to the Palace of Westminster yesterday afternoon, and will be placed in the position assigned to it before the reassembling of Parliament, or the autumn sitting, on the 6th of November.

Notwithstanding the decision of the colonels of metropolitan volunteer corps, disapproving of the proposal that their regiments shall take part in the Lord Mayor's Show, there is a possibility of the Volunteers appearing in the procession to the extent of detachments representing all the corps of the metropolis. Correspondence is now taking place on the subject.

Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., yesterday visited the works of the Manchester Ship Canal, and was subsequently entertained at luncheon by the mayor of Salford. In acknowledging the toast of his health, he expressed his interest in what he had seen that morning, and his belief that the canal would conduce greatly to the prosperity of the district.

The nominations in connection with the Birmingham Municipal Elections took place yesterday. In six wards Liberal Unionists and one Conservative were re-elected without opposition. In the other nine Wards there will be contests, in which Gladstonian candidates will be in opposition to Liberal Unionists or Conservatives.

The Staines site for the New Wimbledon was further inspected yesterday by Mr. Hoey, the surveyor to the National Rifle Association, and during the day it was also visited by Major McKerrell, 1st Ayr, and Mr. Mortimer, secretary to the Middlesex Rifle Association. Mr. Hoey's views are, of course, for the council to consider, but the other gentlemen mentioned freely expressed themselves strongly favourable to the site.

A complete suit of convict's clothes, comprising a coat, shirt, undervest, trousers, drawers, and boots, have been found in a cistern in the yard of the house at Brownhill, Birstall, near Bradford, next to that which Jackson broke into after murdering a warder and escaping from Strangeways Gaol. It is thus evident that the murderer ran the gauntlet of the Lancashire and Yorkshire police wearing convict clothes.

At Glasgow circuit court yesterday, Lord Shand passed sentence of death upon Mary Boyd, aged sixty, a native of Antrim. On the 4th of September last she stabbed, in her own house at Dalry, Ayrshire, her granddaughter, Janet Boyd, aged two years, causing instant death. The child was illegitimate, and the only motive assigned for the crime was to procure 30s. for which the child was insured.

The Marquis of Londonderry has announced his intention to stand for the Seaham Harbour District of the Durham County Council. On Saturday next the Lord Lieutenant will review the 2nd Durham Artillery Volunteers, of which he is the commander, at Seaham Harbour. At the same time Lady Londonderry will open a new drill hall, and will present prizes to the volunteers.

Mr. John Dillon, M.P., arrived at Thurles yesterday as the guest of Archbishop Croke. The town was illuminated, and at 9 P.M. the Archbishop and his guest marched through the town, and addressed a crowd of people from the palace. His Grace said not only had Mr. Dillon spoken a kind and patriotic word for Ireland, but he had suffered for her, and was prepared to do so again if required.

In the Divorce Division yesterday, Mr. Justice Butt heard the petition for divorce presented by Mrs. Short, who had lived at High-street, Hampstead. Five years ago her husband disappeared, and as his clothes were found on the banks of the Lea, it was supposed that he was drowned. It transpired, however, that he had been living with a young lady who also disappeared from Hampstead. A decree nisi, with costs, was granted.

Mr. Jennings, M.P., addressing a crowded meeting of the council of the Conservative Association at Stockport last night, referred to the movement of reform in the public departments, and said the offices were practically filled with sinecures invented by the Radical party. It was, however, not a question of which party was most to blame. The thing to be done was to put an end to the system, and to make it impossible for any party to waste the public money.

There has just died at Berlin, at the age of eighty-four, Count Heinrich Alexander von Redern, one of the high household officers of the late Emperor William. At first he was in the diplomatic service, and represented Prussia in St. Petersburg, but from this career he retired to manage the immense property which he inherited from his brother, who had married a daughter of the Hamburg millionaire, Tenisch.

A sad occurrence is reported from Messrs. Wright, Butler, and Co.'s premises at Lower Mill Works, Pontypool. The driving wheel of a rolling mill revolving at great speed suddenly split, hurling huge fragments in all directions. Patrick Leahy was killed on the spot, his remains being scattered about the works. Another man named Bennett had his leg broken, while a third named Connell had an arm and a leg broken.

KING MILAN'S LATEST OUTRAGE.

HIS EPISCOPAL TOOL DECREES A DIVORCE.

King Milan has cut through his matrimonial difficulties by persuading Theodosius, Metropolitan of Servia, to pronounce him divorced. The King's petition to the Archbishop and the latter's decree have been published in the official *Gazette*. Those who held that King Milan had a strong case for a divorce will, says a *Times* correspondent, be most surprised at the course which he has taken. The Church in Servia is autocephalous, but the power of the Metropolitan to pronounce a divorce by himself, without the sanction of the Synod, is likely to be questioned, the more so as Archbishop Theodosius is regarded by many religious persons as a usurper. But, granting that Archbishop Theodosius's position is unassailable, the fact remains that King Milan accepted the jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court in his divorce suit, and, having requested a three months' adjournment to consider the Queen's reply to his petition, has now suddenly renounced the court's jurisdiction, thus leaving it to be inferred that the tribunal was against him. The Bishop of Nish and another prelate were certainly against him, and this explains the sharp lecture which he inflicted upon them a few days ago. Seven clergymen, with the Metropolitan and three bishops, form the Church Synod, and it is alleged that four of the seven were decidedly opposed to a divorce, while two of the others were doubtful. It will now be seen whether the Servian bishops recognize the authority of the Metropolitan Theodosius to grant divorces under his own seal. The following is the text of King Milan's petition to the Metropolitan :—

"Your Holiness,—According to the laws of this country, the person of the Sovereign cannot be subjected to ecclesiastical jurisdiction, or to the civil courts. The canon law of the Orthodox Church grants to the bishops jurisdiction in their respective dioceses, and the Consistorial Courts can only act under orders which proceed from the bishops. You, as Archbishop of Belgrade, and Metropolitan, are not only master in your own diocese, but supreme over the other dioceses. You are the autonomous chief of the Orthodox Church, and, as spiritual judge, superior to all the other Princes of the Servian Church. Representative of God on earth, your Holiness holds an exceptional situation inside and outside the Orthodox Church.

"After several years of an unhappy marriage, We have arrived at the conviction that life in common with Our Consort Natalie has become insupportable. We therefore appealed to your Holiness on the 12th of June last to dissolve this unfortunate union. The Servian bishops personally declared to Us, and to Our Minister of Worship, on the 21st of June, that the Holy Synod considered itself competent to adjudicate on our petition for a divorce. Your Holiness was also pleased to send a despatch to this effect to our Consort Natalie. In our rescript of the 12th of July, We, as a submissive and devoted son of our Holy Church, recognized the competency of the Holy Synod, but, as King of Servia, We, in the same rescript, urged Our Sovereign rights, and declared Our will that the divorce should be judged by the canon law of our Church. As King, and according to our Constitution, We are not subject to Our common law in our personal affairs. Nevertheless, the same Servian bishops who at first formally acknowledged the competence of the Holy Synod, voted on July 13 against the said competence, and decided that the Consistorial Court and the Court of Appeal had jurisdiction to try Our cause.

"Our Consort Natalie made haste to protest in a despatch addressed to your Holiness against the jurisdiction of the Holy Synod. In order to avoid a divorce We proposed an arrangement which Our Consort Natalie rejected in a manner little compatible with her duties as Queen and mother. We then took her protest into consideration, and granted to the Consistorial Court the right to try Our cause. The Court has treated Our suit as though it were dealing with one of Our subjects, without thinking of the prerogatives which the Constitution assures to the Sovereign and to His House. Absent from Servia for reasons of health, We suspended the incorrect action of the Consistorial Court, and all further negotiations, until our return. Being now returned to the Royal residence which is given Us by the grace of God, aad having acquired the conviction that Our spirit of conciliation and Our benevolence have exercised no influence upon Our Consort Natalie, but have on the contrary served to raise great difficulties for the State and the dynasty, we perceive it is Our Sovereign duty to request your Holiness that you will use the rights conferred upon you by the canon law, and by pronouncing the dissolution of Our marriage, avert the dangers which threaten the Servian State and dynasty. We recommend Ourselves to the prayers of your Holiness, and remain the faithful and devoted son of the Church. "(Signed) MILAN, King of Servia."

MEN WHOM THE EMPEROR DELIGHTS TO HONOUR.

PROFESSORS BERGMANN AND GERHARDT AT POTSDAM.

Yesterday Professors von Bergmann and Gerhardt had the significant honour of dining with the Emperor and Empress of Germany at Potsdam. Afterwards their Majesties came into Berlin, and as they drove along the Linden, for the first time since the Emperor's return from his tour, they were warmly cheered. To-day his Majesty goes to Blankenburg, in the Harz country, to enjoy a day or two's shooting with Prince Albrecht, Prince-Regent of Brunswick ; on Saturday, having returned to Berlin, he is to receive from a municipal deputation an address of congratulation on the happy results of his tour ; and on Sunday he will start for Hamburg.

TO JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU.

The pedestal raised on the Place du Panthéon, Paris, to receive the statue of Jean-Jacques Rousseau has now been completed. It is of rose-coloured granite, and bears on its front the inscription : "Jean-Jacques Rousseau, 28 June, 1712 ; 3 July, 1778." On the sides of the pedestal are the following inscriptions :—"The statue of Jean-Jacques Rousseau shall be erected on one of the public places : National Convention, 15 Brumaire, year two." "A statue, bearing the following inscription, shall be raised to the author of 'Emile' and of 'The Social Contract :' 'The free French nation to Jean-Jacques Rousseau.' The National Assembly, 30 December, 1791." The monument is surrounded by an elegant iron railing.

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A GOOD WORD FOR SIR C. WARREN.

BY SIR C. WARREN.

The *Star* publishes to-day an abstract of Sir Charles Warren's forthcoming paper in *Murray's Magazine*, from which we take the following extracts :—

"MOB" ON THE BRAIN.

The Commissioner starts off with the statement that London has for many years past "been subject to the sinister influence of a mob stirred up into spasmodic action by restless demagogues. Their operations," he says, "have exercised undue influence on the Government of the day, and year by year the metropolis of our empire has become more and more prone to dangerous panics, which, if permitted to increase in intensity, must certainly lead to disastrous consequences. If the citizens could only keep their heads cool and support the police in the legitimate execution of their duty there is nothing to be dreaded from the most powerful combination of the mob, but all peace and order will be imperilled if the citizens continue intermittently to join the mob in embarrassing those who are responsible for the security of the metropolis." "It is still more to be regretted," continues Sir C. Warren, "that ex-Ministers, while in Opposition, have not hesitated to embarrass those in power by smiling on the insurgent mob. If we search history during the present century, we shall find that down to the year 1835 the mob or rabble exercised a decided influence over the destinies of London. In the spring of that year it overleaped all bounds, and London was subject to a three days' reign of abject terror, pitiful and ridiculous, which only terminated because the mob was so completely astonished and taken aback at its own success that it was not prepared to continue its depredations."

THE CLEARING OF TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

Passing to the events of last year, he says :—"The mob, grown quiet since the previous spring, and they, thinking the police would now have no spirit to resist them, commenced proceedings which, but for vigorous measures, might have resulted in the ruin of London. Before it was quite too late, however, a portion of the public saw the danger ahead, and rapidly rallied to the support of the police, and the clearing of Trafalgar-square was successfully accomplished without loss of life or destruction of property. Thus almost for the first time during this century the mob failed in its ascendency over London, and in coercing the Government, but it would be puerile to ignore the fact that there will be again efforts made to remove the destinies of the metropolis out of the hands of the people into those of the mob Gradually peace has been restored, and security prevailing during the summer of 1888, signs were not wanting that another attack on the police was at hand. But this time it was to be of a more insidious character, being directed not so much against the individual police constables as against the police administration, and if successful it would effectually cripple the power of the executive to keep peace and order on the approaching Lord Mayor's Day. Fortunately, however, a note of alarm has been sounded in time, and citizens are beginning to rally round the side of law and order."

"It has been said that the police operations in Trafalgar-square were but military operations ; it should be pointed out, however, that while the tactics were highly commended, the strategy was admired not only by experts at the clubs, but by the Social Democrats themselves ; and there is a most interesting letter on the subject by Mr. Morris in one of the democratic newspapers."

WHY THE DETECTIVES DON'T DETECT.

Sir Charles then gives an historical account of the London police, and goes on to explain why his detectives don't detect. He says :—"The genius of the English race does not lend itself to elaborate detective operations similar to those practised on the Continent," but he claims that "Englishmen possess pre-eminently qualities which are essential to good detective work, such as dogged pertinacity in watching, thoroughness of purpose, and absence of imagination and downright sterling honesty." In further comparing the French and English systems, he congratulates our Continental friends on the fact that "the press does not venture to discuss their operations, to embarrass and hinder their inquiries, or to publish their results ; though, on the other hand, there is a distinct and serious loss to the community, police included, from the absence of a free press."

POLICEMEN OR SOLDIERS?

Finally, Sir Charles repeats some not very candid criticisms which he has already made on our recent articles, and denies that he has "militarized" the force. He says: "It is quite untrue that there has been an attempt to make soldiers of the police, but there are certain attributes and qualifications which have been aimed at which pertain also to the soldier, sailor, postman, railway guard, or, in fact, to any citizen who joins an organized service ;" and that, "It is also quite incorrect that a large number of reserve or discharged soldiers have been recently added to the police force." Furthermore, we read that "There can be very little doubt that the outcry against the police as a military force, so far as it is not instigated for special political or sinister purposes, is due to the Englishman who poses as a censor of public bodies possessing, as a rule, but one idea at a time. And he imagines that all his fellow-countrymen must be endowed exactly as himself. Consequently, when he finds how admirably the police performed their duties during last year—in camp and Court—during fêtes and tumults, he jumps to the conclusion that this is their only qualification, and that they can do nothing else."

LIBERALS AND THE NEW LONDON COUNCIL.

A "Syllabus of Policy" for the new London Council has (writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*) been issued by a Liberal association, and in view of the coming elections is matter of general interest. First are placed efficiency and economy in the use of public funds. Then follow steps for the proper housing of the poor ; equalization of assessments and division of rates between owner and occupier ; taxation of ground rents and values ; abolition of the coal and wine duties ; abolition of City privileges and of selected councillors ; complete police control, as in other large towns ; the control of gas, water, markets, and hackney carriages—existing property in gas and water undertakings to be acquired at an equitable valuation ; utilization of endowments, with special reference to the £500,000 a year which the City Guilds Commission reported was "available for and ought to be applied to the public purposes of the people of London :" assimilation of franchise ; reform of local government "so that all matters pertaining to local government in London may be under the control of the London Council and its District Councils ;" control of the licensing system, "without permitting a vested interest, with property in the licence, to be created in favour of the publican ;" the promotion of leasehold enfranchisement ; and, lastly, publicity of meetings, including committee meetings, of the new Councils.

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AT THE PARNELL COMMISSION TO-DAY.

FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

THE CONNECTION WITH THE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS.

The Attorney-General resumed his address, stating that he proposed to show the connection between the persons charged in the particulars and the American organizations. The presence of Mr. Davitt before their lordships' tribunal would necessitate his referring to matters which it would not have been necessary to bring before their lordships' notice if he had not been a party, but as there were certain incidents connected with Mr. Davitt as to which he should have to give evidence, it was right he should make a reference to such part of the charges as related directly to him. He would remind their lordships what the charges were. They alleged that the Land League organization, of which Mr. Parnell was president, was in effect originated in America. They alleged that it was a conspiracy hatched, floated, and carried out with American money. They alleged that among those who were members of the conspiracy in America were persons who advocated the use of dynamite, who advocated assassination, and who referred to crimes of the worst description as matters incident to the carrying on of a war. They had put upon record the names of the persons with whom the Parnellite alliance associated, and had set out the career and character of some of these individuals. Further, they had alleged in the particulars that the gentlemen whose names were included among the members of Parliament, and other persons, were engaged directly in promoting and disseminating in Ireland literature which incited to sedition, commission of crimes, boycotting, and intimidation, and several newspapers were specially named—the *Irish World*, the *Chicago Citizen*, the *Boston Pilot*, and *United Ireland*. He then proceeded to mention the following names with whom the Parnellites associated :—

Patrick Egan.
Patrick Ford, editor of the *Irish World*.
Brennan, secretary of the Land League.
Patrick Sheridan, a Land League organizer.
Breslin, a member of the I.R.B., who aided the escape of Stephens.
Father Eugene Sheehy.
C. O. M. Condon, sentenced to death for the murder of Constable Brett.
John Finnity, a dynamitard.
James Redpath.
O'Donovan Rossa, an avowed advocate of crime.
Devoy, a Fenian, and
E. G. Rowe.

MICHAEL DAVITT AND PATRICK FORD.

The Attorney-General first dealt with the case of Michael Davitt. Even before the formation of the Land League Davitt secured the co-operation of Patrick Ford and the *Irish World*, and secured also the co-operation of the *Boston Pilot*. Davitt was introduced to Ford in 1878, when Ford remonstrated with Davitt on the somewhat halting and half-hearted policy which he advocated. For years Davitt was connected with Ford—Ford, throughout the agitation, being Davitt's "counsellor, guide, and friend." The scheme to which Davitt gained Ford's adherence was one the cardinal principle of which consisted of the complete national independence of Ireland. Davitt pledged himself never to forget this great central principle. And this (argued the Attorney-General) was the only common ground upon which the Irish party could hope for the support of the American Nationalists.

MR. DAVITT THE FATHER OF MR. PARNELL'S LATER POLICY.

The Attorney-General then devoted himself to speeches delivered by Mr. Davitt in America, in 1878, the year previous to the formation of the Land League. Stress was laid not only upon the policy he advocated, and the language he used, but also upon the extreme character of the men who took part in or were present at the meetings which he attended. It was very interesting to see Davitt correcting *sotto voce* errors made by the Attorney-General and the President as to biographical details in the lives of men belonging to the Fenian period, as to the history of which he was the greatest authority in court, and the Attorney-General and the President acknowledging these corrections quite gracefully. Sir Richard Webster spoke of the famous Irish leader sometimes as "Davitt," sometimes as "Mr. Davitt"—he was, indeed, once caught saying, "Mr. Davitt was at this time, I believe, on ticket-of-leave." Mr. Davitt having asked for the date of a speech, the Attorney-General answered, in quite a suave way, "I am afraid I cannot tell you at the present moment, but I will get it for you." In the speeches of Davitt and the people who spoke at the meetings he attended at this ancient date an aspiration after the independence of Ireland found general expression—indeed, in one resolution quoted there was a distinct allusion to an "Irish Republic"—but "the abolition of landlordism" was even more evidently desired than the disruption of the Union. The Attorney-General explained that his objectwas to show that the programme set forth at this early period on the other side of the Atlantic found enunciation in the speeches of the Irish members of Parliament in 1881 and 1882—that, in fact, Mr. Parnell and his colleagues carried out plans hatched and devised by the extreme Irish-American party in America.

THE NEW DEPARTURE.

This confederation which Mr. Davitt brought about between the extreme section and the home party was constantly spoken of as "the new departure." As far as they could trace history it was the first time that the attempt had been made to bring the Fenian organization, or its outcome, the extreme party, in touch with the land agitation, and in so far as it gave to Mr. Parnell a power in Parliament which he never had before it was eminently successful, but that power only could exist by a reign of terror and intimidation which was rendered effectual by the crimes and outrages committed. Mr. Davitt satisfied the American section that independence would be secured by driving away the landlord class, and the way in which they attempted that was by attacking a class that had never been attacked before. It would be found from Mr. Davitt's own account of his interview with Mr. Parnell that he (Mr. Parnell), although favourably impressed with the new policy, hesitated to throw himself into it, fearing he might be pushed further than he deemed it prudent for him to go. There was reluctance on his part to be dragged into this conspiracy, and why? because of the fear of being pushed into close connection with O'Donovan Rossa, Condon, and Finnity, who advocated the blowing up of public buildings, and the sacking of London, Manchester, and other cities. The Constitutional party was, however, dragged into the mire and slough of despond, from which they had never been able to extricate themselves.

[*Continued on Page 8.*]

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FOURTH EDITION.

AT THE PARNELL COMMISSION TO-DAY.

(*Continued from page 7.*)

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE CAMPAIGN.

The agrarian agitation was commenced early in 1879 by a speech delivered by Michael Davitt at Milltown. He there advised the tenant farmers to feed themselves and their families, to live comfortably, educate their children, and if any money were left, to pay their rent. He expressed his belief that organization might be made effectually to disestablish Irish landlordism. The Land League was actually formed at the Imperial Hotel, Dublin, on the 21st October, 1879. Mr. Parnell was appointed president; Kettle, Davitt, and Brennan became hon. secretaries; while Biggar, O'Sullivan, and Patrick Egan were made treasurers. The funds came from the National Fund—otherwise the Skirmishing Fund—started by Ford in America; and Mr. Michael Davitt always considered the £303 8*s.* which he then borrowed a personal engagement.

A SKIRMISH BETWEEN THE LEADERS.

So far all went quietly enough. The Attorney-General commenced to read from his brief, extracts from a letter purporting to be written by Davitt on the 21st of May, 1884. "Why not read the whole of it?" asked Mr. Davitt. The Attorney-General looked around the court: he was quite willing to read the whole of it; but if he had always to do this, his speech would occupy a much longer time. "Very well,' said Mr. Davitt, "I won't insist upon it."

The Attorney-General was about to proceed, when Sir James Hannen interposed, "Are you going to hand in this document?" asked he.

Mr. Davitt, rising at the same moment, pointed out that he had not yet received the promised particulars, and that he would much like to read the whole of the letter from which the Attorney-General was quoting.

"The document from which you are quoting," remarked the President in his most measured tones, "is, as I understand it, avowedly part of a speech or letter. What Mr. Davitt asks for is an opportunity of seeing the whole context. In what way will you supply this?"

"My lord," replied the Attorney-General, "I will give Mr. Davitt a copy."

"My anxiety for the moment," said Sir James Hannen, by way of assuring Mr. Attorney, "was to satisfy Mr. Davitt. The Attorney-General has now undertaken that you shall have a copy of every speech from which he quotes. Indeed, every speech will be printed on the day's notes."

"Only in the case of police reports," interjected Sir Charles Russell.

The interruption caused Sir Richard Webster to wax indignant. "My learned friend falls into the same error that he has fallen into before. All that I quote I shall put in. In the case of the speeches my learned friend has got copies of them from the *Freeman's Journal*."

"I assure you I have not," said Sir Charles.

"My learned friend need not be so touchy," responded the Attorney-General. And so on.

Again, the President thought it wise to intervene. He said he thought it had been agreed that when a document was quoted the whole document should appear in the day's notes; the portions quoted to be enclosed in distinguishing brackets.

Sir Charles Russell: "We hear this for the first time. We thought the arrangement referred simply to speeches reported by the police. I understand now that the Attorney-General will, when quoting from a speech or letter, put the whole speech or letter on the notes."

"My learned friend will understand nothing of the kind," interrupted the Attorney-General, warmly.

Sir James Hannen intimated that he, at any rate, understood this.

The Attorney-General said that in many cases he had not got the whole of the speeches.

"Of course, if you haven't got it, you cannot put it in," said Sir James, smiling. "However, I will look myself to the next day's reports, and see whether it fulfils my idea of what ought to be done."

The Attorney-General was thus mollified, and Sir Charles Russell, on his part, said he would endeavour to get some of the speeches from the files of the *Freeman's Journal*. So the incident was brought to a close.

THE SPEECH IS RESUMED.

The Attorney-General went on to point out that according to this letter of Mr. Davitt's the leader of the League had to devise a programme which would not scare away any timid land reformer, which would secure the League protection from the heavy hand of "the Castle," and which would enable members of Parliament to defend it in the House of Commons. He also pointed out that "the complete destruction of landlordism" was advocated, not only on economic grounds, but because "landlordism was the British garrison which barred the way to the independence of Ireland."

MR. PARNELL'S "BREAK THE LAST LINK" SPEECH.

Sir Richard Webster then turned to Mr. Parnell's visit to America, early in 1880, when he was engaged in the organization of the American branch of the Land League. At his first meeting, there were present Breslan and Carrol, respectively the secretary and treasurer of the "Skirmishing Fund"; Condon, one of the murderers of Sergeant Brett; John Devoy, the Fenian, and others of like character. Then followed a reference to Mr. Parnell's celebrated Cincinnati speech, wherein he was reported to have said that when they had pulled down "landlordism" they would have paved the way for placing Ireland among the nations of the world, and that he "would not be satisfied until they had destroyed the last link which keeps Ireland bound to England." Mr. Parnell, the learned gentleman said, had since repudiated the last sentence, but Ford had characterized the disavowal as unwise. The speech had been published in the *Irish World* for the purpose of getting American money. It was clear that Mr. Parnell could not have stirred a single step in America unless he had made that speech, and it would never have done to repudiate the main plank in the Irish-American platform.

RAMBLING ON.

The Attorney-General next took up certain letters of Davitt's to the *Irish World*, which he said had been printed as "cablegrams," a statement which brought a smile on to the face of the manager of the *Times*. In the first of these "messages," Davitt advised that copies of the *Irish World* should be sent to all parts of Ireland, and it ended with the words, "Spread the light." The Attorney-General rambled on, quoting from speeches by Davitt, from articles in the *Irish World*, and telegrams sent by Mr. Parnell and others acknowledging the contributions from Patrick Ford, all to show the connection between the two parties. This evidence, he said, had never as yet been put before a judicial tribunal, and if they were of opinion that these organisations were linked together, then the allegations he had made would be amply proved. The suggestion might be made that Mr. Parnell and his friends knew nothing of the *Irish World*, but they were content to receive the money collected from the subscribers of the *Irish World*, and to teach the people of Ireland the doctrines inculcated in the *Irish World*, by circulating that paper. Referring to one of the writers in the *Irish World* who signed himself "Transatlantic," the learned counsel said that his name was Thomas Mooney. He was dead now, but he was one of the most infamous scoundrels that ever lived, and advocated the most atrocious crimes. Among others he suggested that London was at the mercy of its criminal population. Mr. Davitt at one point interrupted the Attorney-General, who credited him with having edited a certain document, with the remark that he could not very well have done that, seeing he was at the time in Portland prison. The Attorney-General acknowledged that the interruption was adroit, but considered it was unnecessary, as Mr. Davitt had approved of the document.

THE PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

The *Freeman's Journal* expresses pride at the universal response to the Parnell Defence Fund, which now amounts to £11,500.

Last evening a preliminary meeting was held at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, for the purpose of starting a London branch of the fund. The Rev. Stuart Fagan occupied the chair. A provisional committee was formed to arrange for a large and representative meeting on next Wednesday evening. Subscriptions amounting to over £50 were handed in.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

M. DE GIERS.—FIFTY YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 25.—To-day being the fiftieth anniversary of M. de Giers's entrance into the public service, a special religious service was celebrated this morning in honour of the occasion. A grand reception will be held at the Foreign Office, which will be attended by the heads of all the Embassies and Legations, who will present M. de Giers with a gold inkstand. The officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs will offer to the Minister a magnificent album chronicling the principal events of his official career, and will give a dinner to their chief to-day. To-morrow M. de Giers will be entertained at a banquet by the German Ambassador, to which the whole diplomatic body has been invited.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* in an article upon the celebration reprints the text of the circular issued after the accession to the throne and the coronation of the present Emperor, and points out that Russia's policy has from that time remained consistent and essentially pacific. The semi-official journal then refers to the confidence with which the Tzar has honoured M. de Giers, whose only desire has been to be a faithful servant to his Imperial master.

THE ELECTIONS IN ROUMANIA

BUCHAREST, Oct. 25.—The result of the elections to the First Electoral College, consisting of seventy-five members, is now known. The returns show that the Ministerialists and their Conservative allies have secured sixty-five seats and the Liberals four; while in six cases second ballots will be necessary.

GOVERNMENT AND POST OFFICE CLERKS IN DEFAULT.

To-day, in the Lord Mayor's Court, a large number of Government and Post Office clerks were summoned for the non-payment of various orders which had been made against them. Indeed, only persons who are in the habit of attending courts know how many clerks in receipt of comparatively large incomes out of the public purse are regularly "judgment-summoned." The serving of the clerks with summonses has always been a matter of difficulty and consequent complaint to the court. The law requires that before a debtor can be committed he must have been served personally. In two cases to-day, in one of which the defendant was a Post Office clerk, and in the other a clerk in the Education Department, the plaintiffs applied to commit the defendants, but had to admit that service had not been effected personally, because defendants were not allowed to be seen. The summons was put in a basket and hoisted upstairs, but nothing more was heard of it. The learned judge said that under the circumstances he would admit the service of the summons, and the cases proceeded.

WHAT A SHOREDITCH GUARDIAN WOULD DO.

The master of the Shoreditch Workhouse reported to a meeting of the board of guardians last night that several casuals had not completed their task of breaking 10 cwt. of stones in the allotted time, and had been charged at the police-court. Mr. Smee wanted to know what the men had for the work. The master said they had 6 oz. of bread, a pint and a half of gruel twice per day, 8 oz. of bread and 1½ oz. of cheese for dinner. Mr. Smee said he should like to know if the guardians considered that amount of common food sufficient for a man working eleven hours per day. He wished those men would not degrade themselves by applying for relief at Shoreditch. If they had only got the pluck of manhood in them they would revolutionize London, and would not leave one monument standing in Trafalgar-square. He considered it a disgrace to civilization to ask a man to work even six hours per day for a little gruel and a bit of bread and cheese, while men who were not doing more for the community were enabled to draw tremendously upon the pockets of the ratepayers. These poor fellows had no alternative but to apply to the parish or starve, and if he had his way he would make some men in London shake in their shoes for the villainous system by which the poor people were driven to the workhouse.

FROM SCOTLAND TO IRELAND FOR SIXPENCE.

It is reported from Londonderry that so great is the competition amongst the steamboat companies running between the Clyde and Londonderry that it has been announced that passengers will be carried from Glasgow to Londonderry for sixpence a head.

JEM SMITH'S "UNIVERSITY FRIENDS."

At the Cambridge police-court this morning, Jem Smith, prize-fighter, was charged with being drunk and disorderly near the Senate House on Saturday midnight. The defence set up was that Smith had come from Newmarket to visit some University friends, and had dined not wisely but too well. He was fined 10*s.* and costs.

SIR AMBROSE SHEA'S HIRED JUBILEE SUIT.

Last evening in the Westminster county court, the case of Pearce and Son v. Shea was tried by Judge Bayley. The plaintiff sued for £4 odd, balance of an account for the hire of a Court suit, which the defendant, Sir Ambrose Shea, K.C.B., used to attend the Jubilee celebrations in June, 1887. The plaintiffs deposed that in consequence of the defendant calling upon them and asking to hire a Court suit they obtained one, for which they had charged £3 3s. Other articles were lent to him and £7 2s. 6d. had been paid on account. The defendant, who is in Newfoundland, contended through a solicitor that the charges were exorbitant, but his Honour found a verdict for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

ACCIDENT ON THE SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.

Two light engines ran into a coal train at North End, Erith, on the South Eastern Railway, this morning, owing to the signals being mistaken. The rear part of the coal train was wrecked, the guard's van being smashed and wedged firmly on the top of the foremost engine. Fortunately the guard was not in the brake, or he must have been killed. The engine drivers were a good deal shaken, but were not otherwise injured. The damage to rolling stock is considerable.

EXTENSIVE DEFALCATIONS BY A CHIEF CLERK.

Mr. Edgar Falconer, fifty-eight, who had been forty years in the service of the Economic Life Assurance Society, during the latter portion of which time he had been chief clerk, at a salary of £600 a year, pleaded guilty to-day, at the Old Bailey, to embezzling various sums of money, the property of his masters, the total amount of his defalcations being stated to be about £6,000. Sentence was postponed.

BREAKDOWN OF A NEW WAR VESSEL.

Her Majesty's ship *Pigmy*, recently built at Sheerness Dockyard, left the Medway this morning for her official trials. Soon after the vessel started on a twelve hours' run, a serious breakdown of her machinery occurred, the vessel being totally disabled. She was towed back to Sheerness.

LEEDS CORPORATION GAS SUPPLY.

A great many complaints having been made of the quality of the gas supplied in Leeds, Mr. Ellis Lever, of Manchester, has been invited by the mayor and a specially appointed sub-committee to examine and report upon the cannel and coal they are using. Mr. Lever's report is expected to be delivered this week.

RETIREMENT IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Pending the action of the Government on the Report of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, an order has been issued at the War Office that the present rule as to retirement is suspended, and that any official who has reached the age of sixty may retire with a pension, or if his services are no longer required, he may be compulsorily retired on reaching that age.

"IGNORANCE" AND IMPUDENCE.

Lord Norton presided last night at the annual dinner of the Coleshill Farmers' Club. In responding to the toast of the Houses of Parliament, he said he considered the House of Lords had proved itself, at all events of late, by far the most representative body of the two, the members of the Upper Chamber having done as much in one night as had been done in the other House in six months. There were men who thought that the House of Lords ought to be elective, but to his mind these were men of the very lowest depth of political ignorance.

IMPORTANT TO WINTER VISITORS TO THE RIVIERA.

With the view to the special accommodation of visitors to the Riviera for the winter season, and the comfort and convenience of invalids on the journey to the warmer climate of the South of France, the South Eastern Railway, conjointly with the International Sleeping Car Company, the Northern of France, and the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean Railway Companies, have again this year concluded arrangements for special services, or "Train de Luxe," which will leave Charing-cross and Cannon-street stations only on Wednesdays and Saturdays, commencing on Saturday, the 3rd November, at 9.40 A.M., to connect with a special steamer to leave Dover at 11.45 A.M. The train from Calais will consist of special carriages—namely, saloon cars, sleeping cars, and a dining room car—will cross Paris by the Ceinture Railway, and run direct to Marseilles, Cannes, Nice, Monte Carlo, Mentone, &c. On Saturdays passengers for Biarritz, Madrid, Lisbon, &c., can travel by this service.

THE GREAT STRIKE OF MINERS.

A great strike commenced in the Yorkshire coalfields yesterday, with the object of enforcing an advance of 10 per cent. in wages. In South Yorkshire about 20,000 men brought out their tools, and in West Yorkshire three or four thousand. The price of coal was further advanced yesterday. The full advance has been given to about 5,000 men in the county, the collieries including the Hoyland Silkstone, Wharncliffe, Carlton, and East Gawber, Birley Vale (Sheffield), and Glass Houghton (Castleford). Some of the Yorkshire colliery owners held a meeting at Leeds yesterday, and reaffirmed their previous resolutions not to grant the advance. Mr. Pickard, M.P., has issued a notice to the miners relative to a conference to be held at Derby on Monday next, when the question of organizing a defence fund will be considered. The crisis has ended at Ilkeston (Derbyshire), where the advance has been given. The Notts men are pressing their claims, and two owners have granted the advance.

THIS DAY'S RACING.

NEWMARKET HOUGHTON MEETING.

THE TROY STAKES.—Declared void.

BRETBY NURSERY HANDICAP.—L'Avare, 1. Brat Herne, 2. King Herod, 3. Eight ran.

Mr. Baron Huddleston, Mr. Justice Mathew, and Mr. Justice Cave have been appointed election judges for 1888-9.

The vessels of the Channel Squadron, which have been lying at anchor on the Clyde during the past week, left this morning for Liverpool.

The dispute between Morocco and Portugal has been finally settled, the Moorish Government having agreed to salute the Portuguese flag at Port Larache, where the insult was offered which led to the action taken by Portugal. —*Reuter.*

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-last One.

BANK RATE FIVE PER CENT.—STOCK MARKETS QUIET.—VALUES NOT APPRECIABLY ALTERED.

As was generally anticipated the Bank of England directors at their meeting this morning made no alteration in the official minimum, which therefore remains at 5 per cent. In the open market the supply of loanable capital continues abundant, and for the day money is worth no more than 2 per cent. The discount rate is easy, with few bills offering. The general quotation for three months' bank paper is 3 per cent., but as a matter of fact most of the business is effected at a fraction below that figure. The movement of the Berlin exchange on London is now being watched with a considerable amount of interest, as any fresh fall brings nearer the possibility of gold being drawn from this centre to Berlin.

Business on the Stock Exchange is still confined within very narrow limits, and quotations have not varied to any considerable extent. The tone on the whole is fairly good, but there is an absence of confidence, and operators are not disposed to commit themselves heavily. Consols and other Home Government Funds are quiet without change, but in the English Railway department several descriptions show a fractional recovery after yesterday's decline. Foreign Stocks are all better, there being again a good inquiry for the two Peruvian loans. American Railroads are dull in response to the uncertain condition of the New York market. Philadelphia and Reading shares are reported to have been heavily sold in New York yesterday, as also Norfolk and Western, the latter owing to the prospective loss of freight traffic in consequence of the lease of the East Tennessee Railroad to the Richmond and Danville Company. Norfolk and Western Preference shares are 1⅛ down, but otherwise the changes are slight. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are weak; but Mexican Railway issues are steady. Diamond and Copper Mining shares are firm, and Salt Union shapes continue to receive a large share of attention.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: North British Deferred ⅜, Great Western, Brighton Deferred, Metropolitan, and South Eastern Deferred ¼, North Western and North Eastern ⅛. *Reced'd*: Hull and Barnsley and Chatham Ordinary ⅛.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced*: Peruvian 1870 5-16, the 1872 3-16, Egyptian Preference ¼, the Unified and Daira ⅛, Hungarian Gold, Italian, Russian 1873, and Spanish ⅛. *Lower*: Egyptian State Domain ¼.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Risen*: Northern Pacific Preference ⅜, New York Central ¼, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, Milwaukee and St. Paul and Ontario shares ⅛. *Lower*: Norfolk and Western Preference 1⅛, Wabash Mortgage ½, the Preference ¼, Louisville and Nashville and Missouri, Kansas, and Texas ¼, Denver Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛, Central Pacific, Erie shares, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage, Philadelphia and Reading shares, and Union Pacific shares ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Mexican Ordinary ¼, Varna Obligations ¼, Nitrate shares ⅛, and Canadian Pacific ⅛. *Lower*: Grand Trunk First Preference ½, the Third Preference ⅜, the Second Preference ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Risen*: De Beers ¾, Kimberley Central ½, Rio Tinto 5-16, Namaqua ⅛, Suez Canal ¼, Primitiva Nitrates ¼, Hotchkiss and Spratt's ⅛, Salt Union ⅛ (5⅛ to 5⅜ premium) *Reced'd*: Hudson's Bay ½, and Allsopp's ⅛.

TRAFFICS.—The receipts of the London General Omnibus Company for the past week were £12,315, against £11,917: and those of the London Road Car Company £2,340, against £2,116. The approximate gross earnings of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad Company for the third week of October were 169,700 dols., as against 174,000 dols. for the corresponding week in 1887.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—Better demand than yesterday, but sales not expected to exceed 10,000. Futures one to two points higher.

Messrs. Heinemann and Co. will receive subscriptions for 30,000 Cumulative Six per Cent. Preference Shares of £5 each, and £250,000 Five per Cent. Debentures of £100 each of the Buenos Ayres New Tramways Company (Limited). The former are offered at par, and the latter at 97 per cent. This undertaking has been incorporated to acquire and carry into effect a concession granted by the Municipality of Buenos Ayres for the establishment of a line of tramways in that city, about twenty-five miles in length, including running powers over about two-and-a-half miles of existing lines. The list will be closed on or before Tuesday next.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols	100⅜	⅛
New Consols (2¼)	97¼	⅜
Reduced 3 p. c.	99 1/16	0¼
Local Loan Stock	102⅛	1
New 2½ per. Cent	94	½
India 3½ per Cent	105½	6
Do. 4½ p.c. Rs.	71⅛	⅜
Egyptian Guar.	99⅛	100⅛
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½	111½	12
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	100	½
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	111	½
Liverpool	110¼	¼
FOREIGN STOCKS		
Argentine 6 p. c.	93	100
Do. Hard Dols.	70½	1½
Do. Treasury	93	4
Austrian Gold	90	2
Do. Silver	63	70
Brazilian 1875	101	3
B. Ayres 6p. c.	98	100
Do. Cedulas I.	61	½
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1335	100	2
Costa Rica A.	92	3
Do. B.	91	2
Egypt. State Dom.	101½	2
Do. Unified	83¼	½
Do. Preference	100⅛	¼
Do. Daira Sanieh	77	½
French 3 p.c. Rnts	81	⅛
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnts	103¼	4½
Greek 5 p.c. 1331	8¼	¼
Hung. Gold Rente	81⅛	⅜
Italian	95⅞	⅞
Mexican Converted	39⅛	¼
Peruvian 5 p.c 72	10⅛	⅜
Do. 6 p.c.	13¼	½
Portuguese	63½	¾
Russian 1873	99⅞	100⅛
Spanish 4 p. c.	72⅛	¼
Turkish 1354	93	100
Group 1	27	⅛
Group 2	15¼	16
Group 4	15¼	⅜
4½ p.c. 1871	81½	2
5 p. c. Defence	93½	4
5 p. c. Priority	81	3
Uruguay Unified	73½	4
Virginia Funded	40	1
U.S. 4½ p.c.	110	11
BRITISH RAILWAYS		
Caledonian	110⅞	11⅛
Great Eastern	63⅛	⅞
Great Northern	115	15
Ditto A	101½	1⅛
Great Western	150⅜	⅛
Hull and Barnsley	33¼	4
Lanc. and York	116⅜	17⅛
Brighton (Ordinary)	143	5
Do. A	130	¼
Chatham (Ordinary)	23⅛	⅜
Do. Preference	101½	2
North Western	167¼	8
South Western	137	8
Manchester & Sinf.	69	71
Do. A.	36	¼
Met. Consolidated	75¼	6¼
Do. Land Stock	69⅝	70½
Do. District	33⅛	4
Midland	131⅛	⅛
North British Pref.	73⅜	⅛
Do. Def.	52¼	½
North Eastern	157	¼
North Stafford	110	11
South Eastern	133	5
Do. Deferred	110½	¼
FOREIGN RAILWAYS		
Canada Pacific	57¼	8
Can. Pacific Share	35½	¾
Chic. M.L. and St. P.	67¼	8
Denver & R. Grande	18¼	19
Do. Pref.	51	½
Illinois Shares	119	20
Lake Shore	105⅛	⅛
Ohio & Mississippi	23¼	4¼
Louis. and Nash.	61¼	¼
Mex. Cen. Bonds	63¼	¼
Miss. Kan. & Texas	12	½
N. Y. Can. Shares	110¼	11¼
New York Ontario	16½	¼
Erie Shares	29⅞	⅛
Do. Sec. Mort.	103⅜	¼
Norfolk & West. Pref.	57⅛	⅜
N.Y.P. & O. 1st M.	41¼	½
North. Pacific Pref.	63	¼
Pennsylvania Sh.	56¼	7
Phil. and Read. Sh.	26⅛	⅞
Union Pacific Shares	67⅛	⅛
Wabash Pref. erred	28¼	¼
Do. Gen. Mort.	44¼	5¼
Grand Trunk Sh.	11⅛	⅛
Do. First Pref.	68¼	¼
Do. Second Pref.	43½	¾
Do. Third Pref.	25¼	7
Do. Guaranteed	70¼	1¼
Mexican Ordinary	48¼	9
Do First Pref	121	½
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	78¼	9¼
Lombardo-Venetian	9	⅛
Varna 3 per cent.	7⅛	⅛
Nitrate Railway	27½	8
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	133¼	14¼
City Bank	209½	1½
Consolidated Bank	7¼	8¼
Imperial Ottoman	21¼	⅛
London and County	85⅛	6⅛
Union of London	40	1
London and West.	66¼	7⅛
London Joint Stock	39	42
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	43	4
Stand. Bank S. Afric	47	8
MINES		
Indian Consolidated	5 16	7 16
Mysore shares	3⅜	4⅛
Ooregums	1 11 16	13 16
Cape Copper	6 7 16	9 16
Namaqua	4⅜	5⅝
Mason and Barry	10⅜	11⅜
Rio Tinto	24 9 16	11 16
Montana £1 shares	1 13 16	15 16
De Beers	24¼	½
Kimberley Cent.	39¼	40
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES		
Anglo-American	48	⅛
Do. Pref.	80	½
Brazilian Submarine	13⅛	⅜
Direct Unit. States	10	¼
Eastern	12⅛	⅜
Ditto Extension	13	¼
United Telephone	13¼	⅜
Globe Teleg. Trust	7	¼
TRAMWAYS ETC		
London Gen. Om.	185	95
London Street	13⅛	14½
London Tramway	13¼	14⅛
North Metropolitan	17½	18½
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	260	5
East London	197	8
Grand Junction	123	7
Kent	270	5
Lambeth	235	60
New River, New	340	50
S'thwrk. & Vauxhal	106	71
W. Middlesex	265	70
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHTS		
Gaslight & Coke A	248	52
Imp. Continental	210	13
South Metropolitan	305	10
Brush Elec. Lt. (£4 p. d)	4	¼
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	8	⅛
Guinness and Co.	305	10
Hotchkiss	10	¼
Bryant and May	13⅛	⅜
Suez Canal	87¼	8¼
Spratt's Patent	10⅜	⅝
P. and O. Steam	64	7
Royal Mail Steam	63	6
Nat. Discount Co	11¼	¼
Hudson's Bay	18¼	¼
Suez Canal	87¼	8¼
E. & W. Ind. Dock	23	5
London and St. K.	40	2

THE BRITISH MINISTER AT WASHINGTON.

THE REPUBLICANS VERY MUCH ANNOYED.

Some stir has been caused by the alleged indiscretion of the British Minister at Washington in writing letters on American politics. The Minister, it is said, on September 12, at Beverly, Massachusetts, received a letter from a resident of Pomona, California, stating that he was a British naturalized citizen, and inquiring for information as to the prevailing party views in connection with the pending election. On September 13 the Minister sent from Beverly a letter, marked "private," in which he said:—

"You are probably aware that any political party which openly favoured the mother country at the present moment would lose popularity, and that the party in power is fully aware of this fact. The party, however, is, I believe, still desirous of maintaining friendly relations with Great Britain, and is still as desirous of settling all questions with Canada, which have been unfortunately reopened since the retractation of the treaty by the Republican majority in the Senate, and by the President's Message to which you allude. All allowances must, therefore, be made for the political situation as regards the Presidential election thus created. It is, however, impossible to predict the course which President Cleveland may pursue in the matter of retaliation, should he be elected; but there is every reason to believe that, while upholding the position he has taken, he will manifest a spirit of conciliation in dealing with the question involved in his Message."

This letter appeared in the *Los Angeles* (California) *Times*, and was reprinted in New York and elsewhere. The Republicans declare it to be an improper interference; the *New York Sun* says that Mr. Secretary Bayard should send the Minister his passports before night; and the *New York Tribune* calls the document an unpardonable affront to the intelligence and patriotism of the country.

The Minister, in the course of interviews held with him, treated the matter lightly. He says that the letter is genuine; that it was a private, not an official, one; that he had written what he believed in the letter; and would give himself no uneasiness about the demand for his recall. The *New York Herald*, however, intimates that the State Department will not permit the matter to pass unnoticed.

THE QUEEN AND THE EAST-END MURDERS.

"GRACIOUSLY PLEASED TO RECEIVE THE MEMORIAL."

During the three days of the week following the Sunday on which the two murders were committed the following petition to the Queen was freely circulated among the women of the labouring classes of East London through some of the religious agencies and educational centres:—

Madam,—We, the women of East London, feel horror at the dreadful sins that have been lately committed in our midst and grief because of the shame that has fallen on our neighbourhood.

By the facts which have come out in the inquests, we have learned much of the lives of those of our sisters who have lost a firm hold on goodness and who are living sad and degraded lives.

While each woman of us will do all she can to make men feel with horror the sins of impurity which cause such wicked lives to be led, we would also beg that your Majesty will call on your servants in authority and bid them put the law which already exists in motion to close bad houses within whose walls such wickedness is done and men and women ruined in body and soul.

We are, Madam, your loyal and humble servants.

The petition, which received between 4,000 and 5,000 signatures, was presented in due form, and the following reply has been received:—

Whitehall.

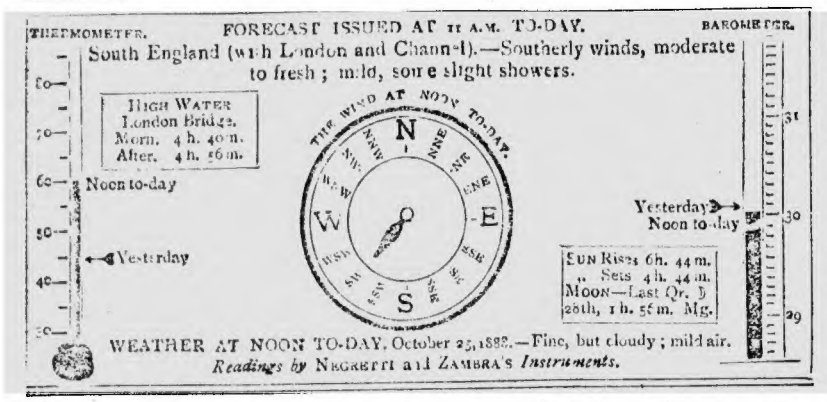
Madam,—I am directed by the Secretary of State to inform you that he has had the honour to lay before the Queen the petition of women inhabitants of Whitechapel praying that steps may be taken with a view to suppress the moral disorders in that neighbourhood, and that her Majesty has been graciously pleased to receive the same.

I am to add that the Secretary of State looks with hope to the influence for good that the petitioners can exercise, each in her own neighbourhood, and he is in communication with the Commissioners of Police with a view to taking such action as may be desirable in order to assist the efforts of the petitioners and to mitigate the evils of which they complain.—I am, Madam, your obedient servant,

GODFREY LUSHINGTON.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO ROME.

With reference to the results of the Emperor's visit to Rome, especially to the Vatican, the *National Zeitung* claims to have received the following "authentic" information from a correspondent at Vienna: "The question of the Temporal Power was specially excluded beforehand from the field of conversation between the Pope and the Emperor. But at the last moment his Holiness, yielding to the importunity of the Irreconcilable cardinals, ventured to broach the topic. The Kaiser only answered that, as the guest of the King of Italy, it was impossible for him to enter into negotiation about his capital. Fortunately, the arrival of Prince Henry earlier than was anticipated put a stop to the painful scene. Nevertheless, in talk with Count Herbert Bismarck the Pope recurred to the question of his temporal sway, though here again his Holiness was abruptly reduced to silence by the Count declaring it to be impossible for Germany to return to the Middle Ages. The Emperor, it is added, was painfully affected by this conduct on the part of the Vatican statesmen, and quite approved of the snub which had been administered to them by Count Bismarck."



Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 27, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

SOMETHING UNIQUE AT ST. JAMES'S HALL.

Next Sunday afternoon (says the *Methodist Times*) there will be a unique and interesting service in St. James's Hall, in lieu of the usual conference. There has been for some years a serious schism in the Order of Good Templars on the negro question. The majority of the Order in this country thought that the equal rights of the negroes were not fully recognized by some of the American Lodges. However, the great controversy is now amicably settled, and, at the request of the two Right Worthy Grand Lodges, which are this week to be re-united in London, Mr. Hughes will hold a thanksgiving service in St. James's Hall on Sunday afternoon. Distinguished representatives of this powerful Order from all parts of the world will be present. Prominent ministers of religion will take part in the devotional services, and the address will be given by Mr. Hughes. The floor of the hall will be reserved for members of the Order in regalia. As there are 10,000 in London alone, they are likely to require all that space. The balconies, the top gallery, and the back of the orchestra will be available for the general public.

MR. IRVING ON THE SUNDAY OPENING OF THEATRES.

Mr. Henry Irving was last night entertained at supper at the Arts Club, Manchester. Responding to the toast of his health, he said that the Rev. John Gritton, who had referred to his (Mr. Irving's) visit in anything but a spirit of brotherly love, had travelled to Bolton to oppose the Sunday opening of Free Libraries. He was not surprised at this, for some time ago, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mr. Gritton uttered as gross a libel on the theatre as ever it had been his ill-fortune to read, and after his falsity had been pointed out to him he had not the Christian spirit to retract. Mr. Gritton hit below the belt, for he warned the people of Bolton that, perhaps, the opening of the Free Library on Sunday would lead to the opening of the theatre on Sunday. He (Mr. Irving) took this opportunity of saying that English actors would be the very first to resent and oppose any such proposal. When he had been acting in cities where the Sunday performances were the most popular of the week he had never played on Sundays, and he never should; and against any such deduction as that of the Rev. Mr. Gritton he entered his protest.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL APOLOGIZES.

Sir Edward Clarke (Solicitor-General) has written to Mr. Finucane, M.P., apologizing for having, in a speech at Rochdale, charged the hon. member with inciting to cruelty to dumb animals. He had based the charge on the *Times* report, and had not, as in the case of the High Sheriff of Limerick City, seen any contradiction of the alleged speech until Mr. Finucane's letter appeared in the *Times*, denying the statements attributed to him.

DEFENCES OF SWITZERLAND.—In the presence of M. Hertenstein, President of the Federal Council, M. Hammer, and several officers of the Swiss staff, successful experiments were made yesterday at Fort Airolo, Canton of Tessin, on the bomb-proof towers recently finished for the defence of the St. Gothard Tunnel.

METROPOLITAN PAUPERISM.—The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers relieved in the second week of the current month was 93,545, of whom 57,185 were indoor and 36,360 outdoor paupers. The total number relieved shows an increase of 2,104 over the corresponding week of last year, 5,209 over 1886, and 6,125 over 1885. The total number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 1,307, of whom 1,057 were men, 218 women, and 32 children under sixteen.

OTTO HEGNER.—The little pianoforte "prodigy" Otto Hegner has been spending the last few months at his native town of Basle, diligently studying under Professor Hans Hüber, with the object of increasing his repertory of classical music, which last season was found to be somewhat restricted. Last week he gave a recital at Basle, and fairly astonished his fellow-townsmen. He will return to England towards the end of the year, and will in January and February fulfil various provincial and London engagements.

A WINTER BOAT SERVICE ON THE THAMES.—The Victoria Steamboat Association has decided to run a winter service on the Thames, between Battersea and Greenwich, at lower fares. Passengers can now travel from Battersea to London Bridge, a distance of five miles, for a penny, or threepence from Greenwich to Battersea. These fares are believed to be the cheapest in the world. The best boats of the fleet will be employed in the winter service, including the two new boats. They will be well heated and lighted, and, during the winter, the fares will be alike on week days and Sundays.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE MERTHYR ELECTION.—Mr. Gladstone has addressed the following letter to the editor of the *Llangollen Advertiser*, who asked how the electors should vote in cases of dual candidatures:—"On the absence of strong and conclusive objections, I should think it my duty, as a rule, to vote for the Association candidate, and I have often strongly and faithfully expressed my sense of the ridicule, as well as mischief, brought upon us by contests between two Liberals. Such is my general idea. It might, however, give offence in Merthyr were I to write on the election in a letter to Llangollen."

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The traffic receipts of the undermentioned companies for the week ended Oct. 21, compared with the corresponding week last year, are as follows:—

RAILWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Brighton	£2,420	—
Caledonian	4,653	—
Eastern and Mid.	166	—
Great Eastern	2,794	—
Great Northern	3,739	—
Great Western	5,710	—
Hull and Barnsley	—	£489
Lanc. and Yorkshire	—	1,190
Manc. and Sheffield	1,422	—
Metropolitan	714	—
Metropolitn. District	71	—
Mersey	172	—
Midland	7,127	—
North British	3,196	—
North Eastern	8,742	—
North Stafford	378	—
North Western	7,907	—
South Eastern	1,351	—
South Western	1,843	—
Tilbury	—	324
TRAMWAYS.		
Belfast	148	—

TRAMWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bordeaux Tr. & Om.	—	£81
Bristol	£247	—
Calais	17	—
Dublin	74	—
Edinburgh	110	—
Germany	133	—
Glasgow Tr. & Om.	1,134	—
Gothenburg	—	3
Hull Street	57	—
Imperial	38	—
London	112	—
London Street	162	—
London Southern	9	—
North Metropolitan	273	—
Provincial	729	—
Rouen	10	—
Sheffield	34	—
Southampton	—	15
South London	6	—
Sunderland	36	—
Swansea, &c.	33	—
Wolverhampton	7	—

CADBURY'S COCOA is a refined concentration of the strength-sustaining principles of the flesh-forming constituents of the Cocoa-nib. Delicious, nutritious, easily digested, and of great economy a sixpenny packet yielding fourteen large breakfast cups of perfect Cocoa. It is absolutely pure.

A LETTER FROM SLATIN BEY AT KHARTOUM.

AN INVITATION FROM THE MAHDI.

The *Political Correspondence* of Vienna publishes the contents of the letter from Slatin Bey to his relatives in Vienna, which was recently forwarded through Osman Digna to the Governor of Suakin, for transmission to its destination. In this communication Slatin Bey announces the receipt of a letter sent by his relatives in November, 1886, which, however, only reached him twenty months after the date of despatch. He relates that after resisting the Mahdists in Darfur for two years, he was at length compelled to surrender. Since then he had been with Khalifa Seid Abdullah, who became so much attached to him that he refused to part with him, and would not agree to his release for any ransom, however large. In conclusion, Slatin Bey asks his friends to send him a few newspapers. Accompanying the letter is a communication from the Khalifa to Slatin's relatives, in which he asks them, and, in fact, any Austrian, to visit Slatin Bey, in order that they may convince themselves of his excellent position. He promises them a safe conduct.

A CHEAPER POSTAGE TO AUSTRALIA.

OCEAN-BORNE LETTERS FOR FOURPENCE.

In a letter to the *Times* to-day, Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., says:—"In May, 1887, I was able to announce that a 3*d.* rate for Australian letters would be conceded. I have since received (on January 31, 1888) a written assurance from the Postmaster-General on the subject, and the Postmaster-General of New South Wales and several Agents-General also promised their support or openly favoured the scheme. This morning I am informed that the postage will be 4*d.* instead of 3*d.* for the ocean-borne letters to Australia. I strongly denounce this charge as being most unsatisfactory to the public. Threepence is a convenient charge in itself; the man with many letters to write or few sixpences to spend being able to send two letters to Australia for 6*d.*, instead of one, would not be likely to forget the boon. The threepenny bit, too, still circulates, and the fourpenny is doomed. The 3*d.* rate would be accepted as a real instalment by myself and others. But Mr. Raikes should clearly understand that we would prefer to wait rather than accept the 4*d.* rate. It may be said that at a conference in Sydney the 4*d.* rate was decided on. In reply to this, I beg to say that a majority of the members of the conference were in favour of the 3*d.* rate, but the officials were too strong. England was not represented at this conference, and it is the duty of England, with a three-million Post Office surplus, to take the lead in these reductions."

THE REVISION COMMITTEE AND GENERAL BOULANGER.

"AS GOOD A REPUBLICAN AS ANYBODY."

General Boulanger was yesterday heard by the Committee of Revision. He began by saying that he had nothing to add to or take from his proposal, and that he was as much as ever for a Constituent Assembly expressive of a strong national feeling. He thought the Senate would consent to no true measure of Revision. The great factor would be the clearly expressed will of the country. The Constituent Assembly would know how to resolve the problem of changing the mechanism of government. That was not anticipating a dictatorship, nor had he the fatuity to say if the danger were to arise how it could best be met. As he said at the Café Riche, if the abolition of the office of President were proposed, he should vote for it. His notion was that a National Assembly should have power to depose or dismiss the President. He was for responsibility from top to bottom, in and out of Parliament, and down to the lowest clerk. His plan was not a disguised Empire. He was as good a Republican or Democrat as anybody there. As to the religious question he would leave it to the Constituent Assembly. Personally he did not trouble himself with religious questions. He would certainly vote for the suppression of the Senate. The office of President being abolished, he would govern by committees and four or five directors. He was for a strong executive. The present situation showed that it should not be subject to the Legislative power. Upon being asked if the Constituent Assembly restored the Monarchy what he would do as a Republican, he replied, "My answer must be this question: If you did not accept the Restoration, what would you do yourself? If a restored Monarchy did not assure liberty to universal suffrage, I should regard insurrection as a sacred duty. However, I don't anticipate the danger you mention, being sure that the great majority of the nation is for the Republic. Were the Monarchy set up again, two-thirds of France would rise to shake it off. It is ridiculous to fear that a freely-elected Constitutent Assembly would go and ask a Pretender to reign over us."

THE SIEGE OF SUAKIN.

The telegraph ship *Electra* arrived at Suakin on Wednesday, and has been placed at the disposal of the Government for the repairing of the electric light on the Shata Gate, which operation is expected to take about a week. The enemy, says the latest news, is still giving us great trouble by a heavy musketry fire from the trenches and the bush. The Arabs also fire shells from field-pieces, and many of the missiles now burst. They fire the guns with great accuracy. Every night shells hit the Water forts, and several fall into the town. This afternoon the rebels shelled the Water forts, this being the first time they have done so by daylight. Several more men have been wounded in the forts by shells. A battery of mounted infantrymen will arrive here from Egypt in a few days, which it is expected will give us great assistance in dislodging the enemy.

THE MAHDI AND THE WHITE PASHA.

From Cairo comes the following news:—Natives who have arrived at Wady Halfa confirm the previous reports of the appearance of a white Christian in the Bahr-el-Gazelle Province. He is described as having a large force, and as marching northward, driving the Dervishes before him. It is also said that the Khalifa Abdullah had despatched three steamers, with three thousand men, against him before the festival of Ramadan, and that no news had been received of that expedition since that period. The same natives report that the adherents of the Mahdi have no influence in Darfur, and very little in Kordofan. Walad-el-Njumi, the Dervish leader, is still at Dongola, as he finds some difficulty in collecting his forces, but will probably start on his march northward on November 8.

SIR MORELL MACKENZIE writes about the Soden Mineral Pastilles:—"I regard them as extremely valuable in obstinate Catarrhal Affections of the Throat. They are especially beneficial to Catarrhal Diseases of the Air Passages. I frequently found them of great service in the cases of singers and public speakers." Acknowledged by the Medical Profession the best remedy for Throat Irritation, Coughs, Bronchitis, and Asthma. Of all Chemists, 1s. 1½*d.*, or 15 stamps, from 10, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn, E.C.

IN PRAISE OF PASTELS.

We believe that the reception held on Tuesday night at the Grosvenor Gallery in honour of M. Roger Ballu, the President of the Society of French Pastellists and "Directeur des Beaux Arts" of France, will not only mark a turning-point in the history of the Gallery, but will be pregnant of the happiest results to British art and British artists. Sir Coutts Lindsay, in the conviction that the virgin ground to which he has set the plough is capable of producing the most desirable results, both material and artistic, organized a brilliant little evening, when art-writers and artists in pastel, English and foreign, might become known to one another, and make common cause in the advancement of the charming and newly-resuscitated art. The little dinner which preceded the general reception was a curiosity in its way. Presiding at the table, which was set in the eastern gallery, Sir Coutts had M. Ballu, the guest of the evening, on his right, and on his left Mr. Yeames, R.A. Then there were Mr. Sala (art-writer to the *Daily Telegraph*), Mr. E. J. Gregory, A.R.A., Mr. Humphry Ward (of the *Times*), Mr. Calderon, R.A., Mr. Frederick Wedmore (of the *Standard*), M. Roll, Mr. Boughton, A.R.A., Mr. Walter Armstrong (of the *St. James's Gazette*), Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, Mr. F. J. Stephens (of the *Athenæum*), Mr. Herbert Schmalz, Mr. Broadly (of the *World*), Mr. Jacomb-Hood, Mr. Salaman (of the *Sunday Times*), Mr George Clausen, Mr. M. H. Spielmann (editor of the *Magazine of Art*) Mr. Percy Bigland, Mr. Deschamps, Captain Gordon, and several French artists. After one toast had been proposed and acknowledged a move was made to the Great Gallery, where the more distinguished of the rank and file of the English artists who have been quick to take the hint, and woo the rising goddess, came streaming in. Mr. Storey, A.R.A., Mr. Wyllie, Mr. Arthur Hacker, Mr. Charles Green, Mr. Haynes Williams, Mr. Edwin Hayes, Mr. Fred Brown, Mr. Waterlow, Mr. Townley Green, Mr. Thaddeus, Mr. Menpes, Mr. Havard Thomas, Mr. Ludovici, Mr. Rixon, Mr. Francis Bate, and a host of others.

Then M. Roger Ballu delivered a short address, as light in touch, as dainty in execution, as happily conceived, and—it must be said—as pleasantly flattering, as the most fascinating of the pastel portraits on the walls to which from time to time he alluded. But if his expressions were delicately turned his facts were solidly convincing, worthy of the greatest attention and respect. After an introduction distinguished by the graceful amenities of complimentary oratory, in which M. Ballu referred to Sir Coutts, not without reason, as a nineteenth-century Mecænas, he referred in glowing terms to Reynolds, to Gainsborough, to Turner, "that great master of light, that very genius and juggler of colour," and to Constable, at whose feet sits the modern landscape school of France. "Bearing in mind these, *our masters*, we come to you to ask you to accept a little votive-offering in return: Pastel. Our society," proudly continued the speaker, "counts among its members some of the greatest artists of our country, men who have undertaken a mission—to go forth like knights and awaken the Sleeping Beauty, Pastel. *Voyez, messieurs*, she comes to you and says to each of you, 'Artist, behold me; I offer you sweetness, tenderness, and brightness, the like of which has never before been placed within your power. Not frail, as my maligners have said, I am a mistress easy to woo: then take me to your heart.' *En vérité*, messieurs, this may you safely do. Ah, you say, but this mistress you offer is but a butterfly; dainty and rich with colour, but whose wings will crumble at the first contact. In reply, I ask you to judge for yourselves: you have your answer on these walls before you. We have not feared to send you our butterflies—they have crossed the sea, and here they are, without a single *retouche*, without having come to damage or harm." To this effect spoke M. Ballu, loudly applauded by his hearers, who were impressed not a little by the arguments and, be it said, allurements of the speaker. The facility with which pastel can be used admits of no doubt: the portraits by Mr. Solomon and Mr. Lewellyn—two of the most striking works in the whole exhibition—are absolutely the first experiments of the painters in that medium. Indeed, as we have already remarked, the bold experiment of Sir Coutts Lindsay promises to open up at the present juncture a new era in art. The public that will be wise enough to visit the Grosvenor Gallery during the next few weeks will assuredly confirm our verdict, and, having confirmed it, it but remains for them to carry it into effect.

THE FISHER FOLK AND THE POPE.

The Pope has been slightly indisposed, but no fears are entertained by those immediately about him. The chief symptoms of the indisposition are attacks of faintness, which, however, soon pass, and slight occasional lapses of memory. He was able yesterday to deliver an energetic address on the usual themes to the Neapolitan pilgrims. A group of fisherfolk, who had brought him an offering of fresh fish, were severally presented with twenty francs, and they loudly proclaimed their intention to restore the temporal power.

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

TO-DAY.

Liberal Social Union, Royal Society of British Artists—J. A. Ellis on "The Education Question," 7.45.
National Health Society Lectures.—On "First Aid to Injured," Owen Lancester, Cleveland House, Clapham Park, 3, and at Devonhurst, Chiswick, 3.
Battersea Public Libraries—Meeting at Lammas Hall, Bridge Road West, 8.
Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 25, Great George-street, Westminster, 7.30.
Fruiterers at the Mansion House, 6.15.
Reformatory and Refuge Union Conference, Shaftesbury-avenue, 5.
West Islington Liberal Club, quarterly meeting, 8.
Lectures: Miss Jennie Young, at South Kensington Liberal Club, 8.30; Mr. G. Macdonald on "Macbeth," Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, 8; the Rev. F. R. Young on "Am I my Brother's Keeper?" at Bloomsbury Socialist Society, 8.30; Mr. Bolton on "Commonsense Politics," St. Pancras Reform Club, 8.30; Mr. Godwin on "Minute Life," North Islington Central Club, 8; A. W. Clayden, on "Wind and Weather," Essex-street Hall, 8; Andrew Thomson (School Board candidate), St. Mary's Parish-room, Hammersmith, 8.30; S. Olivier on "Republicanism and Social Democracy," Marylebone Radical Club, 8.30; G. S. Roberts on "Vivisection," North Camberwell Liberal Club, 8.30.

TO-MORROW.

National Dental Hospital—Annual Dinner, Holborn Restaurant.
Balloon Secretary, E. Glanville, on "British Interests in South Africa." St. James's Hall, 8.
Wesleyan West Central Mission Anniversary—Princes' Hall, 22, Rev. Mark Guy Pearce, sermon; Annual Convention, Wardour Hall, 3; Great Meeting, St. James's Hall, 6.30.
Exhibitions, &c., open.—Italian, West Brompton; Irish, Olympia; Brewers', Agricultural Hall.

The popularity of FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA is rapidly increasing, and where once tried its delicious flavour and agreeable qualities secure for it a permanent place in the household dietary. Highly recommended, by many eminent physicians, for young children and delicate persons to whom tea is injurious. To secure this article ask for FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA.

In the City.

THE LATEST COPPER CONTRACT.

The Copper Syndicate do not publish on the house-tops the nature of their contracts with the copper-producing companies, so that there is some doubt as to the revised arrangements into which they have just entered. The *Daily News*, however, gives the following in a guarded way as "the truth":—

Finding that under the first agreement the copper mines, sure of a good market for their produce, were augmenting their output too rapidly, the syndicate has taken fresh precautions. The producers are to restrict output on their part, while the syndicate guarantees a further ten years' period of free purchases at agreed prices. The syndicate takes the form of a limited joint-stock company, in the profits of which producers are to have some kind of interest. It is expected that the Metal Company's shares will be brought upon the London market, and the profit accruing from these shares will be applied to cover losses and lock-up resulting from the hitherto unsuccessful corner in the metal. The high price at which copper has been kept evidently went far to defeat the syndicate, and more moderate terms are henceforth to be demanded.

THE SALT SYNDICATE.

The first information as to the price paid for the individual concerns taken over by the Salt Syndicate was given yesterday, at a meeting of the Mersey Salt and Brine Company (Limited), which was held at Winchester House. The price to be paid to the company is £135,000, of which £90,000 is to be paid in cash, and £45,000 in shares of the Salt Union. A covenant in the agreement originally forbade the disposal of the shares for a year, but the soliciter stated that the restriction had been removed as to £15,000, and that they hoped to remove it entirely. There are liabilities of £102,000 to be paid by the company, and it is estimated that the surplus for division among the ordinary shareholders will be £30,000 in shares of the Salt Union. The agreement was approved by the meeting.

THE CHICAGO WHEAT CORNER.

The Chicago wheat corner appears to have wider ramifications than was at first represented. According to the weekly circular of Henry Clews and Co., "Bonanza farmers are in the speculative deal with Hutchinson and others, and therefore they have only sent to market wheat of an under grade, which has added to the scare and aided to advance the price of grade wheat. The impression of the public is that the stuff received at the distributing points is a fair sample of the whole crop. This is a part of the conspiracy, and the farmers are a party to it. A farmer can hold back his good delivery wheat until the price of the options is worked up to a high figure; then he can sell the options against his crop and send his wheat forward at his leisure. In this sense farmers are now just as much speculators as 'Old Hutch' is, who is merely a figurehead in the game."

AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION IN THE NETHERLANDS.

The Netherlands have, like other countries, been suffering from agricultural depression, and during the last five years profits have been small. Consul Robinson, writing from Amsterdam, says:—"Rents have been considerably reduced, probably on an average by 30 per cent., if not more; the value of land has fallen very considerably, and many farmers and small landowners have been obliged to abandon the struggle and to emigrate. This has, however, mostly been in cases where land has been bought or rented too dear, and where the heavy mortgage interest or excessive rent has gradually exhausted the farmer's means. The cost of labour, manure, fodder, repairs, and taxes not having diminished, while the falling off in prices of produce has been very great, the balance available for cost of living and for the rent has been so greatly lessened as to make it impossible for the farmer working with borrowed capital to pay his way. Of late years there has been a good deal of irregularity in the payment of rents, and arrears are not so uncommon as they used to be."

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.]

We have received the following books since our last issue:—

AMONG the illustrated books recently to hand are:—"Harper's Young People" for 1888 (Sampson Low); "Come unto Me" (Griffith, Farran, and Co.); Shakspeare's "Songs and Sonnets," illustrated by Sir John Gilbert (Sampson Low).

AUTHOR OF "HOW TO BE HAPPY THOUGH MARRIED." "The Five Talents of Woman." (Fisher Unwin.) [A book for girls and women (dedicated to John Ruskin) in which the following five talents are discussed:—(1) To please people, (2) to feed them in dainty ways, (3) to clothe them, (4) to keep them orderly, and (5) to teach them. Pp. 301, cloth.]

MAJOR, JOHN (Editor). "The Complete Angler, or the Contemplative Man's Recreation of Izaak Walton and Charles Cotton." (J. C. Nimmo.) [A choice edition. Original etchings, coloured plates, and many wood engravings. Pp. 500. 8*s.* 6*d.*]

MORLEY, HENRY (Editor). "Schiller's Poems and Plays." (Routledge and Sons.) [Complete edition. Poems translated by Lord Lytton; plays translated by M. G. Lewis, S. T. Coleridge, Lord Russell, Lord Ellesmere, and others. Pp. 887. 7*s.* 6*d.*]

RENTON, A. WOOD, M.A. "The Conditions of Appeal from the Colonies to the Privy Council." With an introductory essay. (Stevens and Sons.) [Paper covers, pp. 31. 1*s.* 6*d.*]

SHAKESPEARE (Knight's Pictorial). (Virtue and Co.) [This, the last volume of the edition, contains the biography by Mr. Knight, revised and augmented. Profusely illustrated.]

SLADEN, DOUGLAS B. W. "Australian Poets, 1788-1888." (Griffith, Farran, and Co. 3*s.* 6*d.*) [A selection of poems upon all subjects written in Australia and New Zealand during the first century of the British colonization, with brief notes on their authors, and an introduction by Mr. Patchett Martin.]

TYLOR, LOUIS. "Chess and Christmas Masque." (Fisher Unwin.) [Pp. 112. 3*s.* 6*d.*]

UZANNE, OCTAVE. "The Mirror of the World." (J. C. Nimmo.) [The contents include such subjects as "The World and Society," "Home Life," "Love," "Sports," "Art and Literature," "Study," &c. 160 illustrations in colours, by Avril. Handsomely got up. Pp. 159. 31*s.* 6*d.*]

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.

(AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.30,

THE ARMADA.

Winifred Emery, Edith Bruce, Kate James, Ada Neilson, and Maud Milton; Leonard Boyne, Luigi Lablache, Edward Gardiner, Victor Stevens, A. Beaumont, Henry Loraine, S. Dawson, Mervin Dallas, Stanislaus Calhaem, B. Robins, F. Dobell, Basil West, W. Uridge, F. Harrison, C. Warner, Fitz Davis, W. S. Parkes, H. Denvil, F. Thomas, F. Collings, and Harry Nicholls.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD.

EVERY EVENING, at 8.45, PRINCE KARL. Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD as PRINCE KARL (his original character). Preceded at 8 by ALWAYS INTENDED.

MATINEE SATURDAY, at 2.30.

Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

TO-NIGHT at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. HADDON CHAMBERS, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THAT DREADFUL DOCTOR. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE SATURDAY NEXT, October 27, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING, at 9 with the original cast. Preceded by, at 8.10, THE DOWAGER. Doors open at 7.45. Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity. N.B.—BETSY MATINÉE on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Doors open at 2.30.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. RUTLAND BARRINGTON.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.30, THE DEAN'S DAUGHTER. Misses Caroline Hill, Emily Cross, A. Dairolles, M. Barton, and Olga Nethersole; Messrs. Lewis Waller, J. Beauchamp, E. Sass, Aynesworth, Newall, Fleet, Dodsworth, Trent, Dixon, Montagu, Nutcombe Gould, and Rutland Barrington. At 7.45, A PATRON SAINT. Misses Hermon, Lyshon, Mildmay; Mr. Nutcombe Gould.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Mr. THOMAS THORNE, Sole Lessee and Manager.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 184th Time. Preceded at 7.45 by THE BROTHERS. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. William Rignold, Fred Thorne, Cyril Maude, J. S. Blythe, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Frank Gilmore, and Mr. H. B. Conway; Mesdames Kate Rorke, Gladys Homfrey, M. A. Giffard, Banister, B. Harrison, R. McNeill, Bowman, Adlercron, G. Arnold, Manners, &c. MATINÉE of JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART, EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. 87th Time. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Louise Brandon, D. Drummond, E. Burton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE LOTTERY TICKET.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)

(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

The safest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 222nd Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, F. Kerr, H. Reeves Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Edith Chester. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINÉE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN LART.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, THE MONK'S ROOM. Messrs. E. S. Willard, Hermann Vezin, Forbes Dawson, Stephen Caffrey, Ivan Watson, Edward Rose, A. J. Byde, Edwin Shepherd, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Helen Leyton, E. H. Brooke, Marion Lea, &c.

COURT THEATRE.

(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)

(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)

EVERY EVENING, at 9.0 (by arrangement with Mr. John Hare), LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by SYDNEY GRUNDY, and entitled MAMMA. Preceded at 8 by BOX AND COX. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10. Telephone 3,031. SECOND MATINÉE of MAMMA, SATURDAY NEXT, October 27, at 3.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.40, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.

At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (703rd Performance.)

Mesdames Marie Tempest, Florence Perry, Harriet Coveney, F. Neville, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, Farnham Cook, Arthur Williams, J. Le Hay, S. King, and C. Hayden Coffin. Musical Director, M. Ivan Caryll. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MATINÉE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

OPERA COMIQUE.

(Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, a new and romantic Comic Opera, entitled CARINA. Music by JULIA WOOLF. Libretto by E. L. BLANCHARD and CUNNINGHAM BRIDGMAN. New and magnificent scenery by W. Telbin and T. E. Ryan. Costumes by Alias, Mdme. Auguste, and Miss Fisher, from original designs by Wilhelm. Augmented orchestra, conducted by Mr. F. Stanislaus. Chorus and Ballet of Sixty. Incidental dances by John D'Auban. The above production is under the sole control and superintendence of Charles Harris. Characters by Mesdames Camille D'Arville, Josephine Findlay, Ada Dorée, Jessica Dene, Flora Wilmot, Blanche Murray, and Alice Lethbridge; Messrs. Durward Lely, G. H. Snazelle, E. D. Ward, W. Guise, Eric Thorne, H. Halley, and Charles Collette. Preceded at 7.30, by a new and original domestic Comedy, in One Act, entitled THE BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER, by Messrs. A. Golsworthy and E. B. Norman. Doors open at 7.15. Seats may now be booked in advance. Box office open from 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE of CARINA SATURDAY NEXT, October 27, and EVERY SATURDAY. Doors open at 2 o'clock, commence at 2.30. Acting Manager, DOUGLAS COX.

THE JODRELL THEATRE (late Novelty), Great Queen-st., Long-acre.

(Sole Lessee, Mrs. CHURCHILL-JODRELL. Manager, Col. H. J. SARGENT.)

TO-NIGHT, and during week, THE DEMON. M. Rubinoff as The Demon To-night, and Saturday afternoon. M. Wingradeff as The Demon on Friday and Saturday Nights. Doors open at 7.30; Overture at 8. Conductor, Signor Giuseppe Truffi. Box-office open from 10 to 5. No increase in the prices of admission. No fees. Programmes and Cloak Rooms Free.

ITALIAN EXHIBITION.

In Concert Hall and Theatre, FRATELLI PRANDI'S MARIONETTES, "ROBERTO IL DIAVOLO" and "THE LIVING SKELETON," at 3 and 7.30 P.M. The NEAPOLITAN MANDOLINISTS at 4.30 and 9 P.M.

A Dramatic Disappearance.

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CHAPTER XVI.—(*Continued.*)

Resting in her room had not sufficed to restore equanimity to Antonia, worn as she was with the strain of her terrible scene with Major Temple, and the girl felt that peace would not return to her save through the medium of nature, where in some woodland glade, odorous with the pine fragrance, she might sit quietly and be hushed by the lullaby of the wind as it rocked the branches. She was not sorry that the day had clouded over, the sun beaming with a watery lustre through grey cloud film, and a brumous mist brooding over the sea and obscuring the prospect. Such sober livery accorded better than the garish brightness of the morning with her sombre thoughts. To be alone in the twilight recesses of the woods—that was Antonia's desire. The Talbot Woods were associated with too painful a memory to be a peaceful resort, and the only other quiet spot occurring to her mind was Branksome, distant though it was from the town. Thither, then, she wended her way, all unknowing that there her fate was to be decided.

She entered the woods from the inland side, and paused a moment by the church which stands on an open slope before the trees narrow in and hedge the pathway.

Afternoon service was proceeding, and the strains of the anthem floated out into the woodland, where echo held its breath to listen. In the girl's present mood, the deep roll of the organ and the solemn blending of voices filled her soul, which sank to rest, as it were, beneath strong waters of peace. Without effort, she was being borne away in an ocean of sound, and lulled to sleep in the depths by the booming of the mighty billows overhead. She stood for some quarter of an hour in the little graveyard, like a rich, dark-hued flower glowing among the shades of the tombs beneath the lowering sky, and when the music ceased proceeded on her way—pensive, perhaps, but no longer so sad.

After passing through a belt of pines the path skirts the margin of two woodland tarns known as Branksome ponds. They are uncanny-looking pieces of water, long and narrow, like gigantic graves filled with rain water. The overhanging trees create a perpetual twilight about the spot, and the surface of the ponds, of sombre hue, generally bears floating islets of decayed leaves and twigs. When the sun shines the locality is bearable enough, being shady and cool, with pale green lights upon the water, but when it is cloudy the shade becomes gloom and the coolness a vault-like chill, while the waters assume an inky hue, so that the wayfarer shudders, and involuntarily connects the locality with tragedy.

It was very solitary and still that Sunday afternoon, and Antonia was conscious of a deepening melancholy as she sat her down by the lower pool, on a rustic seat formed in the hollow of an oak. It was hard, she thought, that she should have to renounce all her life, with its possibilities of happiness, to Major Temple because he had been her self-constituted guardian. She wondered, did every one have to make such renunciation? As she pondered, it recurred to her with flash-like vividness that on the morrow she would have to leave Bournemouth in her guardian's company, and, when she thought of his recent behaviour, horror overcame her at the idea of being again in his power. Yet, with the inconsistency of her misery, she shuddered to think that she should be conscious of such horror. Duty, or what she deemed duty, and inclination were waging war in her soul, and the fierceness of their contest shook her very being. She could not forbear aiding inclination in her mental argument, and then it came to her why she was so grieved at quitting Bournemouth. Yes! It was of no use deceiving *herself*, although she might disguise the feeling from all the world beside. She loved Captain Essilmont.

CHAPTER XVII.

"I HATE MY HUSBAND!"

Mrs. MacNab, the pious Scotch landlady of the apartments taken by Mr. Sniff, shocked at the Sabbath eccentricities of her lodger, who, in place of going to "kirk" in the morning, walked out on the cliff and came home full of ungodly hilarity, was still further scandalized that afternoon by the arrival of a visitor, a lady whose hurried manner and untidy appearance were out of harmony, not only with the sacred day, but with the good woman's ideas of ordinary respectability.

The detective was resting at ease in an arm-chair, smoking a cigar, and, while digesting his dinner, was also ruminating over the strange discovery regarding Captain Essilmont which he had made that morning, when his visitor was announced.

"I hope you'll excuse the smoke, Mrs. Costelloe," he said, with a polite and politic bow, as his visitor entered. "I did not anticipate being honoured with a lady visitor on Sunday afternoon. Indeed, such visitors are black swans with me on any afternoon."

"Oh, I don't mind smoke," said Mrs. Costelloe. "I am too agitated to mind anything just now, so, for goodness' sake, don't stand on ceremony. Time is too precious."

"You are quite right, Mrs. Costelloe, and I only wish every one was of your way of thinking. Take a chair and let's proceed to business."

She sat down, but almost immediately rose again, and began walking to and fro across the room, saying:—

"I've forgotten how to rest, and can't keep still a moment. I'll be able to tell you my story better walking about, if you don't mind."

Sniff made no reply, but slightly elevated his

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE, Shaftesbury Avenue.
Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER. Manager, Mr. J. C. SMITH.
OPEN EVERY EVENING, at 8, with AS YOU LIKE IT. Miss Wallis (Mrs. Lancaster), Miss Annie Rose (Mrs. Horace Nevill), Miss Kate Fayne, Mrs. Edward Saker, Mr. William Farren, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Arthur Stirling, Mr. J. R. Crauford, Mr. Seymour Jackson, Mr. Charles Cooper, Mr. John Buckstone, Mr. Allen Thomas, Mr. Sidney Harcourt, Mr. Matthew Brodie, Mr. C. Arnold, Mr. Arthur Fenwick, Mr. G. Seldon, Mr. Herbert Basing. Mr. Ferguson, and Mr. Forbes Robertson. Doors open 7.30, commence at 8; carriages 11. Box-office open daily, from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. D'OYLY CARTE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, intitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.20 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 7.0.

SAVOY.—THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2.0.

SAVOY.—SEATS may now be BOOKED THREE MONTHS in ADVANCE. Good seats can be obtained at the box office of the theatre, which is open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

COMEDY THEATRE. — TO-NIGHT, at 9 o'clock, a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. T. G. Warren, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, and Miss Vane Featherston. Preceded by, at 8, THE SPY, by CECIL RALEIGH. Business Manager, Mr E. F. BRADLEY.

UNCLES AND AUNTS, TO-NIGHT, at 9. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 o'clock.—COMEDY THEATRE.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. WATKIN.—Lighted by electricity. TO-NIGHT, THE OLD GUARD (Last 3 Nights), supported by Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. Alec Marsh, Mr. Joseph Tapley, Mr. M. H. Grahame, Mr. Leon Roche, and Mr. J. J. Dallas; Miss Giulia Warwick, Miss Carrie Coote, Miss Clara Graham, Miss Nellie Woodford, and Miss Annie Halford. Increased orchestra and chorus, conducted by Mr. John Crook. Preceded by a new operetta entitled QUITS, composed by Mr. JOHN CROOK. Doors open 7.15. Operetta 7.30. Opera 8.15. Carriages at 11. Box-office open daily from 10.30 till 5 o'clock.

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eyebrows, for he could not but acknowledge that his visitor's restless manner—her hurried, shifting glance, her disarranged hair, her careless attire, lacking any touch of grace, such as instinctive female vanity knows well how to add—that her whole appearance, in fact, gave colour to Mrs. MacNab's unfavourable impressions. Yet even Sniff could not help perceiving that this disarray gave a nameless attraction, an unartificiality, to her beauty, and threw around her an air of romance, haply of tragedy. In this guise she looked a "woman with a history," and appealed as few women do to the imagination.

After pacing up and down for a few moments, Mrs. Costelloe suddenly arrested her steps, and turned her gaze direct on Sniff, who sat in his arm-chair waiting for her to speak.

"*You* were right," she exclaimed, "and *I* was right. My husband is not dead, but it is evident that he does wish, as I knew in my bitterness, to get rid of me."

"Have you seen or heard of him, then, since I called on you?"

"I have not only heard *of* but *from* him. Read that." And she threw on the table the letter sent her by her husband through his little son.

Sniff read it attentively, Mrs. Costelloe meanwhile leaning her arms on the table and bending over towards him with a scrutinizing gaze as if to read his judgment of the letter in his face.

"I will not say what I think of your husband, Mrs. Costelloe," said the detective, after completing his perusal of the document, "but what I read here only makes me the more determined to discover him, for such a man is a danger to society. To offer you the money you have a right to expect of him only on condition you never seek to see him again, and affect ignorance of his fate; to voluntarily accept all the loneliness and misfortune incidental to a widow's position, without a widow's freedom of action; to lay yourself open to all the scandal that will assuredly be rife about you in such a position—to ask you to do this on the threat of depriving you of your legal alimony! Why, you are asked to connive at felony, neither more nor less. I must keep this letter as evidence, Mrs. Costelloe."

"Do you see what he says is the alternative if he returns home—that if he is condemned to my perpetual companionship it would become so irksome to him that he feels convinced he would, in the end, be compelled to resort to desperate measures to get rid of me, and that to one of his temperament such measures would mean tragedy?"

"I do," said Sniff, "and if it were not that I now know him to be as sane as you or I such language would make me think him mad."

"Perhaps he is," said the wife, mournfully, "for surely no sane person could go back on his words as he has done. When I think of all the vows and protestations with which he asked me to become his wife, his oaths of affection and fidelity, his—but it maddens *me* to think of it all. He is another person now, and no longer my husband, and I *hate* him. You must help me to find him, Mr. Sniff. I will tell you why—in order that I may confront him with Miss Tressilian, and thus punish them both. Ah! there is no better revenge than to deprive people of those whom they love."

"Calm yourself, Mrs. Costelloe," said Sniff, "for you know I can't help you if you betray such anger."

"I'm not angry," said the woman, in tremulous tones. "I'm only heart-broken. But let it pass! I came to tell you that my husband, I mean, *that man*, was in Bournemouth, in order that you might more easily find him."

"I *have* found him, I think," said Sniff, quietly, "and I only want your evidence to enable me to capture him at once. I——"

At this moment Mrs. MacNab announced another visitor, a policeman. Sniff asked Mrs. Costelloe to excuse him and descended to the door.

"Well! What news?" he asked.

"He's gone out for a walk," said the other.

"Why on earth didn't you follow him?"

"Where'd have been the use in my uniform? He'd have twigged it at once."

"What direction did he take?" asked Sniff, curtly.

"He went towards Branksome, but he was walking very slow, smoking a cigar, and I think you'd easily overtake him."

"You're sure he has no suspicion he is being watched?"

"Certain. He walked as slow as a snail, with his head bent down thinking. A man who suspects we're on his track doesn't walk like that."

"True. I'll follow him then, and, as luck has it, I've got a witness upstairs able to identify him, whom I'll take with me, so we may confidently expect his arrest this afternoon. Go up to the head office and get a companion, and then come on to Branksome as quickly as possible. Keep out of sight, but within call. Have the"—Sniff clasped the fingers of his right hand round his left wrist—"with you."

The policeman nodded.

"I want you to come out with me at once, Mrs. Costelloe," said the detective, re-entering his room. "I've just heard where your husband is probably to be found, and I want you to come and identify him. Fortunately I set some one to watch the hotel where the man who I'm sure is Mr. Costelloe is staying, and I've just been informed by my sentinel that your husband has gone out to Branksome Chine."

"Possibly by appointment to meet Miss Tressilian!" said Mrs. Costelloe, with a bitter smile. "I'll come, and we'll find them both together, as I wish."

Sniff did not heed her bitter remarks, but hurried downstairs. His very finger tips tingled pleasantly with the sensation of success in his search for the missing actor, and the sweetness of the knowledge that his own convictions as to the solution of the mystery were now about to be verified prevented his attending to the demeanour or words of his companion. He only viewed her now as one of the instruments to his end.

A strange pair they looked, the dapper little detective, with a smiling face, and the carelessly-attired, fair-haired woman, with a strange wild look in her eyes, hurrying through the streets on this Sunday afternoon. There were not many people about, but those who saw the curious couple speeding along the cliff towards Branksome, shook their heads and wondered what tragi-comedy was on foot.

(*To be continued to-morrow.*)

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ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

BUENOS AYRES NEW TRAMWAYS COMPANY (LIMITED).

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1886.

ISSUE of £150,000, in 30,000 CUMULATIVE £6 PER CENT. PREFERENCE SHARES of £5 each, redeemable after 1st January, 1939, at £20 per cent. premium; and £250,000 £5 PER CENT. DEBENTURES to bearer of £100 each, repayable at par within 40 years, by means of a Sinking Fund and Annual Drawings, commencing in 1905, and to be secured by a first mortgage of all the Company's undertaking to trustees.

Messrs. HEINEMANN and Co. INVITE SUBSCRIPTIONS for the above PREFERENCE SHARES at par, and DEBENTURES at £97 per cent., payable as follows:—

SHARES.		
On Application	£0 5	per Share.
On Allotment	1 15	"
On 4th Dec., 1888	1 10	"
On 4th Feb., 1889	1 10	"
	£5 0	

DEBENTURES.		
On Application	£5 0	per Cent.
On Allotment	25 0	"
On 4th Dec., 1888	30 0	"
On 4th Feb., 1889	37 0	"
	£97 0	

Interest will be payable half-yearly. The first payment will be made on 1st of February, 1889, on the instalments to that date.

Subscribers can pay up in full on allotment, or at the date fixed for payment of any instalment, under discount at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

Applications are to be made on the accompanying form.

In cases where no allotment is made the deposits will be returned, and where the allotment is less than the amount applied for the balance of the deposit will be credited towards the payment due on allotment. Failure to pay any instalment when due will render the previous payments liable to forfeiture.

Scrip will be issued for the debentures against letters of allotment after payment of the first £30 per cent., and will be exchangeable for the debentures as soon as possible after payment in full.

The certificates of shares will be issued after the payment on allotment.

The LIST will be CLOSED on or before TUESDAY, the 30th of October.

TRUSTEES FOR THE DEBENTURE HOLDERS.
Nicolas I. Bouwer, Esq., Buenos Ayres.
Walter D. Heinemann, Esq., London.

DIRECTORS.
T. C. TATHAM, Esq., Director Midland Uruguay Railway Company (Limited), Chairman.
Thomas Cory, Esq., Chairman National Bank of Wales (Limited).
J. W. A. Woodroffe, Esq., 23, Drayton-gardens, S.W.

BANKERS.
In London—The Consolidated Bank (Limited).
In Buenos Ayres—Messrs. Samuel B. Hale and Co.

ENGINEER.—Sir Douglas Fox, C.E., 2, Victoria-mansions, Westminster.

SOLICITORS.—Messrs. Bircham and Co., 50, Old Broad-street, London.

AUDITORS.—Messrs. H. Woodburn, Kirby and Co., Chartered Accountants, 19, Pirchin-lane, London.

SECRETARY.—Mr. Alexander Secretan.

OFFICES.—3 and 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C.

The Buenos Ayres New Tramways Company (Limited) has been incorporated for the purpose of acquiring and carrying into effect the concession, dated March 27, 1888, granted by the Municipality of the City of Buenos Ayres to Messrs. Peter A. Gartland and Company, authorizing the establishment of a line of tramways in that city, of about 25 miles, including the running over of about 2½ miles of existing lines.

This concession has been granted by the Municipality, in view of the great demand for increased facilities of locomotion. The population of the city has almost doubled since its last important tramway was built, and at present numbers over 450,000 inhabitants. The term of the concession is sixty years, at the end of which period the undertaking and rolling stock, &c. (but not the buildings), become municipal property.

A map showing the lines comprised in the concession accompanies the Prospectus, and is believed to be correct. Many of these lines run through densely populated streets, no part being at a greater distance than about 2½ miles from the commercial centre of the city, while all converge upon or connect with it, and it is believed that the new tramways, when fully developed, will be as remunerative as the existing lines.

According to published returns for 1887, the average net revenue for that year of the three existing English tramway companies in Buenos Ayres, after deducting loss on exchange, was £2,260 per mile, viz.:—

Anglo-Argentine Tramways Company (Limited)	£1,696
Buenos Ayres and Belgrano Tramways Company (Limited)	2,419
City of Buenos Ayres Tramways Company (Limited)	2,665

The sum required to pay the interest on the Preference Shares and Debentures of this Company is £860 per mile. Assuming that the Company will earn only half the above average net revenue per mile, its receipts will be sufficient not only to pay interest on the Preference Shares and Debentures but about 6 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares. The published receipts of the above companies for 1888 show a considerable increase over those for 1887.

The Debentures are redeemable at par within forty years from the date of issue, by means of a sinking fund and annual drawings of the respective sums stated in the table on the back of the debentures, commencing in 1905, and will be secured by a first mortgage of all the Company's undertakings to the above named Trustees. The right is reserved to increase the number of debentures drawn in any year on giving three months' previous notice.

The Preference shares are made redeemable, at the option of the Company or the shareholders after 1st January, 1939, in order to ensure to the latter the return of their capital with 20 per cent. premium before the period when the concession will expire. The money required for the redemption is to be provided by an annual reserve fund out of profits, during the ten years next after the extinction of the Debenture debt in 1929.

A contract, dated October 24, 1888, has been entered into between the Company of the one part, and William Lucius Morkill and Francis Arthur Bowen of the other part, whereby in consideration of the Debentures and Shares, or the proceeds thereof, the contractors undertake to procure the transfer of the concession to the Company, to build and equip all the tramways comprised in the concession, with suitable stabling, buildings, and rolling stock, and the necessary land, all to the satisfaction of the Company's Engineer, by October 1, 1890. The contractors also engage to pay all the expenses of the formation and registration of the Company, and £25,000 for administration during construction and working capital. The interest on the Debentures and Preference Shares is guaranteed for two years from the first general allotment, although the lines are expected to be completed in eighteen months.

The total capital of the Company is as follows:—

5 per cent. Debentures	£250,000
6 per cent. Preference Shares	150,000
Ordinary Shares	75,000
	£475,000

The above Contract, the Concession and ordinances relating thereto, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the forms of the Trust Deed and Preference Share Certificate, an agreement dated 15th August, 1888, between Messrs. Peter A. Gartland and Co. and Messrs. Heinemann and Co., and two agreements dated 24th October, 1888, between Messrs. Morkill and Bowen and Messrs. Heinemann and Co., as to the present issue and the payment of interest during construction, and other documents, may be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors of the Company, and subscribers will be deemed to have had notice thereof, and of any other existing contracts within the meaning of section 38 of the Companies Act, 1867, and to have waived any further compliance with that section.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained of the Consolidated Bank (Limited) and at the Offices of the Company, and of Messrs. Heinemann and Co. Applications should be forwarded to Messrs. Heinemann and Co., and cheques be made payable to them and crossed to the "Consolidated Bank (Limited)."

62, Gresham House, Old Broad-street, E.C.,
25th October, 1888.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

BUENOS AYRES NEW TRAMWAYS COMPANY (LIMITED).—ISSUE of £250,000 in FIVE PER CENT. DEBENTURES of £100 each, and £150,000 in SIX PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PREFERENCE SHARES of £5 each.

FORM OF APPLICATION. No. —.

To the Directors of the Buenos Ayres New Tramways Company (Limited).

(To the care of Messrs. Heinemann and Co., 62, Gresham House, London.)

Gentlemen,— hereby request you to allot the undermentioned amounts of capital in the Buenos Ayres New Tramways Company (Limited), viz.:

£ in 6 p.c. Preference Shares of £5 each.
£ in 5 p.c. Debentures of £100 each.

£

And agree to accept the same, or any less amount that may be allotted to on the terms of the Prospectus of the 25th October, 1888, and subject to the regulations of the Company, and to pay the instalments thereon in accordance with the said Prospectus.

I enclose cheque for £ being 5 per cent. on the amount of the above application.

This to be written clearly. Signature ..... Name in full ..... Address ..... Date .....October, 1888.

Cheques should be made payable to Messrs. Heinemann and Co. and crossed to the Consolidated Bank (Limited).

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